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Banner of the Covenant.

JULY, 1854.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL SYNOD OF THE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA, SESSION XXXI. PHILADELPHIA, MAY, 1854.

Philadelphia, May 17, 1854.
7½ o'clock, P. M.

The General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America met, pursuant to adjournment, in the First Reformed Presbyterian Church, Broad street, and was opened by a sermon from the Moderator, Rev. Andrew W. Black, D. D., from Rom. i. 1, last clause: "Separated unto the gospel of God."

After sermon, the Moderator constituted the Synod by prayer; whereupon Synod adjourned to meet in the same place to-morrow at 10 o'clock, A. M., the Moderator concluding by prayer.

Same place, May 18, 10 o'clock, A. M.

Synod met, pursuant to adjournment, and was opened by prayer. The Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Proceeded to ascertain the members, when it appeared that the following appointments had been made by the respective presbyteries:

Northern Presbytery.—Rev. Dr. McLeod, A. G. Wylie, A. Clarke, D. J. Patterson, H. Gordon, A. R. Gailey, R. A. Hill, S. L. Finney, John Bole, W. D. Silliman, general alternate, W. S. Darragh, ministers; and James N. Gifford, James Turnbull, Anthony Paul, Henry Donaldson, Peter Buchanan, Robert Pattison, William Agnew, Wm. Walker, ruling elders.

Philadelphia Presbytery.—Rev. Dr. Crawford, T. W. J. Wylie, R. J. Black, W. Sterrett, A. G. McAuley, ministers; and G. H. Stuart, John Kemps, James Neely, Joseph Fleming, Robert Steenson, alternates; R. Guy, J. McKendrick, S. Teas, John Neely, William Hogg, ruling elders.

Pittsburgh Presbytery.—Rev. Dr. Guthrie, G. Scott, Dr. Black, J. Hutchman, D. Herron, J. Douglass, J. Nevin, A. Walker, G. R. McMillan, R. McCracken, R. Burgess, ministers; and J. Dickie, J. Caughey, H. Dehaven, J. N. Ewer, J. McFann, J. Stevenson, R. Hill, H. Boyd, J. Vaughan, R. Mehard, F. Beattie, alternates; D. Williams, J. Scott, H. Sterling, A. Jordan, A. Harsha, J. Caskey, J. Murdoch, A. Barn, J. Patton, J. Slater, J. Black, ruling elders.

Ohio Presbytery.—Rev. J. A. Crawford, E. Cooper, Dr. Heron, H. M'Millan, R. Patterson: general alternates, G. M'Millan and T. A. Wylie, ministers; and Daniel M'Millan, John S. Elliot, John Orr, R. Martin, alternates: P. Gibson, J. Reed, R. C. Reid, S. Little, ruling elders.

Western Presbytery.—Rev. Samuel Wylie, J. M'Master, J. W. Morrison, A. M. Stuart, J. M'Millan, H. A. M'Kelvey, J. Pierson, James Scott, ministers; and G. H. Caskey, W. Kennedy, R. Creighton, J. Blair, S. Orr, ruling elders.

Saharanpur Presbytery.—No representation.

The roll of Synod, as completed, is as follows:

Rev. John N. M'Leod, D. D., Andrew Gifford Wylie, David J. Patterson, Henry Gordon, Robert A. Hill, Andrew R. Gailey, Spencer L. Finney, John Bole, William D. Silliman, Samuel W. Crawford, D. D., Theodorus W. J. Wylie, Robert J. Black, William Sterrett, Alexander G. M'Auley, Thomas C. Guthrie, D. D., George Scott, Andrew W. Black, D. D., Josiah Hutchman, David Herron, John Douglas, John Nevin, Andrew Walker, G. R. M'Millan, Robert M'Cracken, Robert Burgess, Andrew Heron, D. D., Hugh M'Millan, Ebenezer Cooper, J. Agnew Crawford, Robert Patterson, William Wilson, D. D., Samuel Wylie, John M'Master, John W. Morrison, Alexander M. Stewart, John M'Millan, James S. Scott, ministers; and James N. Gifford, William Agnew, George H. Stuart, John Kemps, Joseph Fleming, James Neely, Robert Steenson, John Dickie, Henry Sterling, John Caskey, John Black, Francis Beattie, James Scott, John S. Elliot, Samuel Little, George H. Caskey, William Kennedy, ruling elders.

Resolved, That Rev. John Newton, Presbyterian missionary to Northern India, be invited to a seat as a consultative member.

Proceeded to the choice of officers; whereupon Rev. John W. Morrison was appointed Moderator, Rev. John N. M'Leod, D. D., was continued Stated Clerk, and Rev. William Sterrett assistant.

Resolved, That Synod take a recess for half an hour.

Resumed business, when the Moderator announced the standing committees, as follow:

Committee on Foreign Correspondence.—Rev. Dr. M'Leod, S. L. Finney, and G. H. Stuart.

Committee on Discipline.—Rev. Samuel Wylie, H. M'Millan, and John Caskey.

Committee on the Signs of the Times.—Rev. A. G. Wylie, W. Sterrett, J. Douglas, E. Cooper, John M'Millan.

Committee on Theological Seminary.—Rev. Dr. M'Leod, Dr. Crawford, Dr. Guthrie, Dr. Herron, J. M'Master.

Committee on Presbyterian Reports.—Rev. H. M'Millan, R. J. Black, John Bole.

Committee on Devotional Exercises.—Rev. J. Hutchman, E. Cooper, and J. Fleming.

Committee on Supplies.—Rev. Dr. Black, A. G. M'Auley, S. L. Finney, J. A. Crawford, S. Wylie.

Committee on Finance.—Rev. George Scott and Henry Sterling.

Auditing Committee.—Messrs. James N. Gifford and Joseph Fleming.

COMMITTEES ON PRESBYTERIAL RECORDS.

Northern Presbytery.—Rev. J. Douglas and John Black.

Philadelphia Presbytery.—Rev. E. Cooper and G. H. Caskey.

Pittsburgh Presbytery.—Rev. J. M'Millan and S. Little.

Ohio Presbytery.—Rev. A. R. Gailey and J. Kemps.

Western Presbytery.—Rev. J. Nevin and J. Caskey.

Resolved, That the thanks of Synod be returned to the late Moderator, Rev. Andrew W. Black, D. D., for his excellent sermon, delivered at the opening of this Synod, and that he be requested to publish it in the Banner of the Covenant.

The routine business was interrupted for a short time to hear a statement from Rev. Dr. Baird respecting the operations of the American and Foreign Christian Union. Dr. Baird addressed the Synod. On his concluding, on motion of Rev. Dr. M'Leod, it was—

Resolved, That Synod have heard with great satisfaction the statements of Rev. Dr. Baird on behalf of the American and Foreign Christian Union, and that they cordially commend that institution to the favourable notice and effective support of the ministers and members of the Reformed Presbyterian Church.

Resolved, That the hours of meeting shall be from 10 o'clock, A. M. to 1 o'clock, P. M., and from 4 o'clock, P. M., until an adjournment is made by resolution.

Synod then adjourned to meet at 4 o'clock, P. M., the Moderator concluding by prayer.

Same place, 4 o'clock, P. M.

Synod met, and was opened by prayer. Same members present as before. The Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Proceeded to the consideration of unfinished business, according to the docket of the Stated Clerk.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence were called upon to report. The chairman, Rev. Dr. M'Master, having been removed by death, Synod were informed by other members that a letter had been transmitted to the Synod in Scotland.

Dr. M'Leod read a copy of a letter of encouragement transmitted by synodical order to the presbytery of Saharanpur. It was accepted.

The committee, (Drs. Black and M'Leod,) to transmit to the railroad companies of the country the resolutions on Sabbath sanctification, passed at last meeting of Synod, reported the discharge of that duty. The reports of the Theological Seminary, referred to this meeting of Synod, were called up. Whereupon it was—

Resolved, That these reports be referred to the Committee on the Theological Seminary, with instructions to report to-morrow morning.

The alteration in the rules, proposed at last-meeting of Synod, requiring "that all the officers of Synod be voted for by ballot," was called up for consideration. It was moved to adopt it.

Resolved, That the further consideration of this motion and of the whole subject be indefinitely postponed. The ayes and noes were called for, and were as follow: ayes, 24; noes, 20; not voting, 2—Several members absent.

The Committee on the Sustentation Fund were not yet prepared to report.

The Committee on Psalmody reported in part, and were continued.

The consideration of the old balances due the Treasurer on the

Seminary Account was postponed until the reports of the Treasurer be received.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That half an hour be spent to-morrow morning in devotional exercises, after the constitution of Synod, under the direction of the Moderator.

A paper from the congregation of Xenia, in reference to the location of the Seminary, was presented and read. It was accepted and referred to the Committee on the Seminary.

The Northern Presbytery presented their report. It was accepted. So much as relates to the Seminary was referred to the Committee on the Seminary, and the remainder to the Committee on Presbyterial Reports.

The Philadelphia Presbytery presented their report. It received the same direction.

The Western Presbytery presented their report. It received the same direction.

On motion of Mr. G. H. Stuart, it was—

Resolved, That Rev. Drs. M'Leod, Guthrie, and Rev. H. M'Millan be appointed a committee to bring in a Minute on the death of the late Rev. Gilbert M'Master, D. D.

Synod then adjourned, Rev. Dr. M'Leod concluding by prayer.

Same place, May 19, 10 o'clock, A. M.

Synod met, pursuant to adjournment. Same members present as before, with the addition of Rev. Henry Gordon, W. Agnew, and W. Kennedy. The Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. Dr. Guthrie and S. L. Finney.

Proceeding to business, the Ohio Presbytery presented their report. The Pittsburgh Presbytery also presented their report. These were severally accepted and referred to the Committee on Presbyterial Reports.

A paper on union accompanied the report of Pittsburgh Presbytery. It was read and laid on the table for the present.

The Committee on the Theological Seminary presented a report in part: it was accepted for consideration. Dr. Guthrie presented a minority report.

Resolved, That the consideration of these reports be the order of the day for 4 o'clock, P. M.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises presented their report. It was approved, and is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON DEVOTIONAL EXERCISES.

The committee on "Devotional Exercises" recommend that Synod spend half of an hour in prayer and praise each morning immediately after the reading of the Minutes, and that the Moderator preside and direct the services, and designate those who are to conduct them. The committee think it important that ruling elders should take part with the ministers in this worship. The custom obtaining among us, which requires ministers to lead in the devotions of Synod, and excuses the ruling elders from active participation, although of long standing, should not be allowed to operate any longer. We suggest, therefore, that hereafter the Moderator call upon ministers and ruling elders in common to lead in the service he designates. It is recommended that on Mon-

day the time be extended an hour and a half, and the following order pursued:

The Moderator commence by singing.

Prayer—Rev. G. R. M'Millan.

Address on the present duty of the Church—Rev. Dr. Heron.

Singing and reading of scripture—Rev. S. Wylie.

Prayer—Mr. Hepry Sterling.

Singing—Mr. S. Little.

Prayer—Mr. George H. Stuart.

Address—Rev. H. M'Millan: "The necessity of devotedness to the cause of Christ on the part of Church officers."

Prayer—Rev. Dr. T. C. Guthrie.

Singing—Rev. A. G. Wylie.

Reading the scripture—Dr. M'Leod.

Prayer—Mr. John Black.

Singing—Rev. E. Cooper.

Benediction—Rev. A. M. Stewart.

Submitted respectfully by the committee.

Resolved, That the hour of commencing the sessions of Synod in the morning be half past 9 o'clock.

A communication from a committee of the Associate Reformed Synod of the West, on the subject of Psalmody, was presented by the Stated Clerk and read. It was accepted and referred to the Committee on Psalmody. It is as follows:

To the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, to meet at Philadelphia, in May, 1854:

Dear Brethren,—The General Synod of the Associate Reformed Church of the West has had its attention turned for the last two or three years to the subject of an improvement of the version of the Psalms, now in use by that body. The version used by it, as you are aware, is that which was adopted by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, after the Westminster Assembly, commonly known in this country under the name of "Rouse's Version." At the General Synod of 1851, a committee was appointed to take the subject under consideration, and to correspond with other ministers and churches, and invite their co-operation. From that time until 1853, but little progress was made. At the Synod of 1853, the committee was enlarged, a division of labour adopted, and a sub-committee appointed to address other Presbyterian bodies, and invite their co-operation. Under this appointment we act in addressing you.

In inviting your attention to this matter, we would say—

1. The measure is important in itself, and intimately connected with the union of the different branches of the Presbyterian family, the union of which is forced upon our attention by the missionary wants of the age, and the movements and combinations of our common enemies.

2. There is a growing demand in our body for something to be done in the premises, and at the same time a conviction that whatever is done, should be of such a character as to command the general and permanent confidence of the different branches of the Church of Christ.

3. The committee appointed by our Synod are directed to act in view of the following principles:

"1st. This Synod, with entire unanimity, adheres to a faithful translation of the Book of Psalms, as the subject matter of praise.

"2d. Retain our present version, with slight amendments, changing obsolete words, and smoothing the version, but making no essential changes.

"3d. The addition of a variety of metres, in which no version is to be admitted which cannot be justly called a translation."

4. We are encouraged to address you on this subject, and invite your co-operation, knowing that your attention has been turned in some measure to the same subject.

Brethren, we shall expect to hear from you at an early date in relation to this matter; and any suggestions you make, as to the nature of the work, the best means of accomplishing it, and the plan of co-operation, will be thankfully received and candidly weighed; and joyfully shall we learn your willingness to labour with us in this important undertaking.

Prophecy warrants the hope that the age of missionary activity will be an age of Christian union and of union in praise. "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace—that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation—that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth! Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing; for they shall see eye to eye, when the Lord shall bring again Zion."

The good Lord hasten it in his time!

With sentiments of brotherly affection, and earnest prayers for your prosperity, and that we may all be guided by heavenly wisdom in this matter, we subscribe—

Your brethren in Christ,

JOSEPH CLAYBAUGH,

JAMES PRESTLEY,

DAVID R. KERR,

Committee.

Direct reply to James Prestley, Cincinnati, Ohio.

The stated Clerk presented the report of the Presbytery of Saharanpur. It was accepted and referred to a special committee. The Committee are Rev. R. Patterson, Dr. McLeod, and G. H. Stuart.

Communications from East and West Tennessee, asking supplies of preaching, were presented, read, and referred to the Committee of Supplies.

The appointment of the time for hearing the sermons, ordered by Synod at its last meeting, was referred to a special committee. The Moderator appointed the pastors of the churches resident in this city, with Mr. G. H. Stuart.

On motion, Rev. Dr. Cooper, Rev. Mr. Beveridge and Rev. Mr. Marshall were severally invited to a seat in Synod as consultative members. Rev. Mr. Newton, missionary to India, being present, was invited to address the Synod on the subject of foreign missions. Mr. N. complied. Having finished, the following resolution was presented by Rev. R. Patterson and adopted:

Resolved, that the thanks of Synod be, and they hereby are, returned to Rev. John Newton for his valuable and impressive address on India, the operations and prospects of the mission there, and the urgent wants of its perishing idolaters, and that Synod will earnestly labour to increase the number of its foreign missionaries, and the means of evangelization at their disposal, until the number of our labourers among the heathen equals that of the preachers of the gospel at home, and that we recognise the conversion of the whole world as the grand object of the exertions of the Church of Christ.

A memorial from the congregation of Shenango, on the subject of union, was presented and read.

The proceedings of a convention on union were presented and read; whereupon it was—

Resolved, that these, and all other papers of a similar character

be referred to a special committee. The committee are Rev. A. G. Wylie, Dr. Crawford, Dr. Black, H. M'Millan, S. Wylie.

Synod then adjourned, the Moderator concluding by prayer.

Same place, 4 o'clock, P. M.

Synod met, and was opened by prayer. Same members present as before. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Proceeded to the order of the day, the consideration of the reports on the Seminary.

Resolved, that such portion of these reports as recommends the re-organization of the Seminary be adopted, and that Synod proceed at once to determine the location by ballot.

Synod took a recess for ten minutes. Proceeded to ballot—Rev. Dr. Black, John M'Master, G. H. Stuart, tellers.

Resumed business, when the tellers reported the result of the ballot, as follows:

Philadelphia,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	votes, 29
New York,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	" 3
Pittsburgh,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	" 1
Allegheny,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	" 1
Xenia,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	" 14

The Moderator declared that Philadelphia had been fixed upon as the place for the Theological Seminary.

Resolved, that the subject of the Professorships be referred back to the committee to report to-morrow morning, and that Synod shall then proceed to elect the professors by ballot.

The committee to make arrangements for delivering the discourses, appointed by last Synod, reported by a recommendation. A substitute was offered and entertained by Synod. Dr. Guthrie requested to be excused from delivering the discourse on domestic missions, on account of indisposition. He was excused, and the resolution adopted. It appoints the sermon on foreign missions to be preached on Sabbath evening, and that upon personal holiness on Monday evening.

The Rev. Mr. Quay, agent of the Pennsylvania Colonization Society, was permitted to address the Synod. Having concluded, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of Synod be returned to Rev. Mr. Quay for his interesting address, and for the offer made of sending the Colonization Herald to the ministers of this church, resident in Pennsylvania.

Rev. J. A. Crawford gave notice that he would introduce, next week, some plan for the extension of the church at home, and for the increase of the salaries of the ministry.

The following resolution was offered by Rev. Hugh M'Millan.

Resolved, That the law establishing a delegated Synod, passed in 1823, and explained in 1831, be, and it hereby is re-affirmed; and that Presbyteries be directed in future to make out their delegation to Synod accordingly.

This resolution was adopted. See Session, May 25, half-past three o'clock P. M.

(For law, see Appendix B.)

Resolved, That this proposition be laid on the table until to-morrow.

Synod then adjourned—the Moderator concluding by prayer.

Same place, May 20, half-past 9 o'clock, A. M.

Synod met, and was opened by prayer. Same members present as before. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Proceeded to the devotional exercises, which were conducted by Rev. G. Scott and Mr. Samuel Little.

The committee on the Theological Seminary reported in part, recommending that three professorships be established, viz.: 1. A professorship of Systematic and Practical Theology, including Sacred Rhetoric. 2. A professorship of Biblical Literature. 3. A professorship of Ecclesiastical History and Government. And also, that three hundred dollars per annum be the salary for each Professor, for the present.

Resolved, That the roll be called, and that each member of Synod declare his preference for the number of professors.

The roll was called, and three determined as the number.

It was announced that a member of Synod was prepared to support a Professor of Evangelistic Theology, should such be established by Synod, and a proper person obtained.

The further consideration of this subject was, on motion, postponed for the present.

Resolved, That Synod proceed to an election, by ballot, for the first, second, and third professorships.

The Moderator called on Rev. Dr. Guthrie to address the throne of grace.

Synod took a recess for ten minutes. Proceeded to ballot for a Professor of Systematic and Practical Theology—Rev. Dr. Black, J. M'Master, and G. H. Stuart, tellers.

Resumed business. The tellers reported that Rev. John N. M'Leod, D. D., had been elected. The Moderator declared that Dr. M'Leod was elected.

Resolved, That Synod proceed to vote, *viva voce*, for a Professor of Biblical Literature.

Rev. Theodorus W. J. Wylie was elected unanimously.

It was moved that Mr. John W. Faires be elected to the chair of Ecclesiastical History and Government. Mr. Faires positively declined.

As a substitute, it was

Resolved, That Synod proceed to elect by ballot.

Proceeded to ballot. There being no election, it was, on motion,

Resolved, That Rev. Hugh M'Millan be appointed to this professorship.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, it was postponed for fifteen minutes, for the purpose of hearing Rev. Mr. Smith, on behalf of the Presbyterian Board of Publication.

Mr. S. was heard; whereupon it was, on motion,

Resolved, That the thanks of Synod be returned to Rev. Mr. Smith for his very happy address, and that the publications of the Presbyterian Board be recommended to the ministers and members of the Reformed Presbyterian church.

Synod then adjourned—the Moderator concluding by prayer.

Same place, May 22, half-past 9 o'clock, A. M.

Synod met, and was opened by prayer. Same members present as before. Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Dr. Guthrie desired it to be recorded, that he had withdrawn his name as a candidate for any of the professorships. It was also understood that a similar record be made in the case of Rev. W. Sterrett, Mr. J. W. Faires, and others.

Proceeded to the devotional exercises, Rev. J. Nevin in the chair, who introduced the services by singing. Rev. E. Cooper led in prayer. Rev. J. Nevin read the Scripture. Rev. Dr. Heron addressed the Synod on the present duty of the church; which was followed by singing and prayer. Rev. H. M. Millan addressed the Synod on the subject of devotedness to the cause of Christ on the part of ministers of the Gospel. And the exercises were concluded by singing and the benediction.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to wait on the Professors elect, inform them of their election, and ascertain their decision, that it may be reported to Synod.

Rev. Geo. Scott and Dr. Heron are the committee.

Resolved, That the thanks of Synod be returned to Rev. R. Patterson for his excellent sermon on Foreign Missions.

Rev. Dr. Neill addressed the Synod in relation to the corporation for the relief of the families of deceased Presbyterian ministers. Whereupon, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of Synod be returned to the venerable Dr. Neill for his instructive address, and that the subject be recommended to the careful attention of our ministers and people.

Rev. R. Patterson offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Whereas, in the present aspect of public affairs, it is exceedingly desirable that the various departments of the visible Church, and especially those who, by their common origin, unity of faith, and uniformity of worship, are most closely related as members of the same great family of Christ, were better acquainted with each other's public movements, as a means of promoting love and peace, preparing for concerted systematic resistance to infidelity and Popery, and for co-operation in aggressive efforts against heathenism:

Resolved, that the Stated Clerk be requested to forward annually copies of the Minutes of this Synod to the proper officers of the Reformed Presbyterian Synod of Scotland, the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland, the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland, the Synod of the Original Seceders, the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of England, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the Eastern Reformed Synod, the Synod of the Free Presbyterian Church of Canada and New Brunswick, the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church of Canada, the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia, the Reformed Presbytery of New Brunswick, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, the Synod of the Free Presbyterian Church, the Associate Reformed Synod of the West, the Associate Reformed Synod of New York, the General Synod of the Associate Church, and the Reformed Presbyterian Synod; and this Synod hereby respectfully and affectionately requests from these venerable bodies such interchange of their public documents as in their wisdom they may judge profitable.

Rev. Geo. Scott moved that such part of the report of the committee on the Seminary as refers to the salary of the Professors, be adopted.

Rev. Mr. Hutchman moved that the whole subject of the Seminary

be postponed, and that the instruction of the students be committed to the Presbyteries.

The Moderator declared this motion out of order, inasmuch as the matter of reorganizing the Seminary had been definitively settled by Synod, and could not be reached but by a reconsideration of the vote. An appeal was taken, and the Chair sustained.

Resolved, That the committee on the Theological Seminary be directed to bring in a completed report, to-morrow morning.

Rev. Dr. Black offered the following resolutions, which were referred to the Board of Missions:

Resolved, 1, That in view of the importance of obtaining extensive and accurate information in regard to our Mission Stations in India, and for the purpose of encouraging the brethren there, in their self-denying labours, it is advisable that a commission of this Synod be appointed to visit these Mission Stations: Therefore,

Resolved, 2, That Rev. T. C. Guthrie, D. D., and Mr. George H. Stuart, be, and they hereby are commissioned to visit the Northern India Mission Stations, in connexion with this church, and collect such information in regard to general missionary operations as may be regarded important to this Synod.

Resolved, That a ruling elder from each Presbytery be added to the committee on the Theological Seminary

They are, Messrs. James N. Gifford, G. H. Stuart, Henry Sterling S. Little, and G. H. Caskey.

Synod then adjourned—Rev. H. M'Millan concluding by prayer.

Same place, 4 o'clock, P. M.

Synod met, and was opened by prayer. Same members present as before, with the addition of Rev. D. J. Patterson. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The committee on Presbyterial reports presented their report. It was accepted and adopted. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PRESBYTERIAL REPORTS.

The committee have pleasure in reporting, that the "Reports of Presbyteries" give evidence of an active and healthy state of religion in their respective bounds. Unity and concert of action seem to mark the brethren in their different fields of labour. No complaint or appeal is heard from any Presbytery or inferior court. All speak of growth and extension; of having inviting fields of labour beyond their power of cultivation; of prayer to the Lord of the vineyard for an increase of labourers; and of a strong appeal to Synod, to use the means in its power for the raising up of suitable labourers for the work of the Lord.

While such appears to be the general state of the churches, we are not without evidence, from the Reports before us, that there are numerous evils in society, impeding the progress of truth, and the success of the Gospel, against which there is the utmost need of vigilance. The love of the world abounds; the means and facilities for its acquisition are abundant; and few appear to possess that victory over it, whereby they can seek first the kingdom of God, believing that then every other necessary thing shall be given to them. Iniquity abounds. Slavery, Sabbath violation, intemperance, and such like evils prevail; and we are in danger, from familiarity, of regarding them with a favourable eye. These reports farther speak of schism and division in the church of God in general, which lead to diversity of interest, to partial conflict, while labouring on a common field; and to a danger of party spirit, in place of true

zeal for the glory of God, in the salvation of ruined sinners. Against these and similar evils, there is great need of watchfulness and prayer, that we enter not into temptation.

There are, in these reports, many other things of interest, which it might be desirable to collect, and present in a more condensed form, but which the brevity of this report forbids. We therefore conclude by presenting the following resolutions, which the committee recommend for adoption, viz.:

1st. That this Synod has abundant cause of gratitude to the Head of the church for the good degree of truth and peace which we, as a church, are permitted to enjoy, and for the measure of success with which it has pleased the God of all grace to bless the labours of us, his unworthy servants, during the past year.

2d. That this Synod earnestly recommend to all the brethren under their care, a conscientious and diligent use of all the appointed means of grace, both private and public, personal and social, as the most effectual way of guarding against the manifold evils of the day to which we are exposed; and of promoting, in ourselves and others, that holiness without which it is impossible to see God.

3d. That increased and persevering effort be made by all, in their respective places, for the maintenance and promotion of true Christianity in our country, and throughout the world, as exhibited in the symbols of our public profession, and as received from our godly ancestors.

4th. That, in accordance with the petition of the Western Presbytery, it is hereby recommended to the Board of Missions to establish, in Chicago or St. Louis, a missionary station, if in their wisdom such a measure be deemed expedient.

5th. That Synod, in accordance with the request of the Western Presbytery, divide, and hereby do divide said Western Presbytery into two Presbyteries, separated by what is called the "National Road," running east and west—that part of the Presbytery south of said road retaining the name, "Western Presbytery," and that part north of said road to be called the "Chicago Presbytery." And farther, it is hereby directed that the members of the Western Presbytery north of the above line, do meet on the first Wednesday of October, 1854, and constitute said Chicago Presbytery—Rev. John W. Morrison to preside.

6th. For the satisfaction of the churches in general, it is hereby recommended that the Reports of Presbyteries, or such parts of them as may be judged proper, be published in connexion with the minutes of Synod.

(Signed,)

H. M'MILLAN,
ROBERT J. BLACK, } *Committee.*
JOHN BOLE,

REPORT OF THE NORTHERN REFORMED PRESBYTERY.

To the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church:

The Northern Reformed Presbytery would respectfully report as follows:—That since the last annual meeting of Synod, the condition of Presbytery has been favourable. The Head of the Church has been dispensing his blessings upon this department of the vineyard. Many of our congregations have received large additions to their numbers, and, we trust, a corresponding increase of progressive holiness has been experienced by all. On the 24th of last December, Rev. John Bole, probationer, was ordained and installed over the congregations of Ryegate and Barnet, Vt. The prospects of the pastor and people are very encouraging.

On the 19th of April, 1854, Mr. Wm. D. Silliman, probationer, was ordained and installed over the congregation of Pottsdam, St. Lawrence county, N. Y. In this place there is a new and most interesting field for the Re-

formed Presbyterian Church. There are now connected with this Presbytery eleven ordained ministers, all of whom have their respective charges, except Rev. A. R. Gailey, who has been engaged during the year past in fulfilling synodical appointments. Presbytery has one licentiate, Mr. John M'Corkle, who has been attending, during the senior year, in the University of Pennsylvania. There are likewise two students of theology, namely, Mr. John Young and Mr. William Calderwood.

There are at least six vacancies under the care of Presbytery, and much retarded in their growth for want of sufficient supplies of the ordinances. With the exception of these places, the ordinances of divine grace have been regularly administered. Days of fasting and thanksgiving have been generally observed. But we have reason to regret that the influences of the world are felt to a greater or less degree in our part of the field assigned us, as well as in other parts; and we feel that the inroads, which a temporizing policy has already made upon the Church of God generally, require a renewed exertion, in dependence upon God, for the maintenance of the cause of God, and the extension of the kingdom of Jesus Christ. The great moral lever, which the Head of the Church has long ago established, will demand that attention by your venerable body which its importance requires. This lever is the training up and qualifying men for the gospel ministry. The great subject, therefore, which now presents itself before you, with an all-absorbing interest, is the establishment of a seminary.

As a Presbytery, we would respectfully beseech your venerable body to act upon this matter finally and favourably before you adjourn. The call upon us for ministers is a call for the establishing of a seminary. The very wants of the Church present a loud call upon every member to do his duty prayerfully and conscientiously, laying aside all sectional preferences—knowing no North or South, or East or West.

The prayer of this Presbytery is, that the Head of the Church may direct your venerable body, in all your deliberations, for the interests of Zion, and that you may come to conclusions which will facilitate the dissemination of the truth of God, as proclaimed in the gospel of his Son.

The accompanying paper, in the form of a memorial, was adopted by Presbytery, and ordered to be transmitted to Synod.

Signed,

DAVID J. PATTERSON,
Clerk of Presbytery.

New York, May 16, 1854.

MEMORIAL.

The following resolutions were offered by Dr. M'Leod, and adopted by Presbytery:—

Resolved, That in the judgment of this Presbytery, a Seminary for the systematic instruction of young men for the ministry is indispensable to the well being, progress, and increasing usefulness of the Reformed Presbyterian Church.

Resolved, That in the judgment of this Presbytery, one of the eastern cities, in which the church is duly represented, is the most appropriate place for the location of such school of the prophets.

Resolved, That General Synod be, and they hereby are, respectfully memorialized to take this subject into their most serious consideration, and to establish, without unnecessary delay, a theological school, such as the character of the church and the exigencies of the age demand at their hands.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to General Synod, in connexion with the presbyterial report.

Adopted by Presbytery.

DAVID J. PATTERSON,
Clerk of Presbytery.

New York, May 16, 1854.

REPORT OF THE PHILADELPHIA PRESBYTERY.

To the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America :

The Philadelphia Presbytery respectfully reports to the General Synod as follows:—That since the last meeting of Synod we have been blessed with peace and prosperity. There are at present under our care seven organized congregations, all which are supplied with pastors, excepting Milton and Washingtonville congregations, which are now vacant. Their late pastor, the Rev. M. Smyth, desiring to proceed westward, the pastoral relation was dissolved; and, at his own request, he was dismissed to the Western Presbytery. Consequently these congregations are now without a pastor. As this is deemed by us an important vacancy, it is hoped that Synod will not overlook us in the distribution of supplies.

At a meeting of Presbytery, held on the 28th of June, 1853, Mr. William T. Wylie, a student of divinity under our care, having completed the usual course of study, and delivered the trial pieces assigned to him, was duly licensed to preach the everlasting gospel as a probationer for the holy ministry. Mr. Wylie, at his own request, obtained leave of absence for four months, with the intention of visiting Europe. Since his return, he has been occasionally supplying the Milton congregation. At the request of the committee of supplies of the Ohio Presbytery, he was sent to supply within their bounds. At present he is within our bounds, and is now at the disposal of Synod.

A call from the Xenia congregation for the Rev. J. A. Crawford, having been transmitted to us by the Ohio Presbytery, was presented and by him accepted. Accordingly, at his own request, he received a certificate of dismission to the Ohio Presbytery. We have now five ordained ministers, two licentiates, (Messrs. J. W. Faires and Wm. T. Wylie,) and two students of divinity, (Messrs. Matthew Mc'Bride and Joseph Fleming,) who are prosecuting their studies with a view to the ministry. Mr. Alexander Robinson, who was reported at last Synod as a student under our care, has been permitted at his own request to suspend his studies, to pursue a literary course in the University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Faires has been supplying within our bounds, as far as circumstances would permit.

In this connexion, Presbytery would respectfully urge upon the attention of Synod the importance of resuscitating the Theological Seminary.

To this subject we merely advert in passing, as having an important bearing upon the interests of the Church; and we do sincerely hope that it will receive the early and prayerful consideration of Synod. In existing circumstances, we feel the importance of our distinct organization as a Church of *Jesus Christ*; and it is our desire to maintain it. During the last season, the Rev. Dr. Crawford and Rev. Theodorus W. J. Wylie have been, by presbyterial appointment, instructing the students of divinity under our care.

We are happy to state that our people in general manifest a good degree of interest in the cause of missions at home and abroad.

Our contributions for this noble cause have been considerably increased, and it is felt that all we now need, in order to extend our operations, is a supply of faithful labourers.

In conclusion, our prayer is, that Zion's exalted Head and King may be present in your midst, and that, by his Spirit, you may be directed to such issues as shall be for the divine glory, and the best interests of the Church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

W. STERRETT,
Stated Clerk of Presbytery.

REPORT OF THE PRESBYTERY OF PITTSBURGH.

During last year Pittsburgh Presbytery has held two semi-annual meetings, besides one special meeting called to consider the case of the Rev. David Ken-

ned, which had been referred to it by Synod. At that special meeting Mr. K. did not see proper to give attendance. At the subsequent meeting, after due consideration, Presbytery decided that Mr. Kennedy be required to acknowledge his fault in using psalmody not authorized by our church—that he be required to promise strict conformity to the law of the church in this case made and provided—that the Moderator administer a rebuke to Mr. Kennedy, and that the whole subject be dismissed. In this decision Mr. K. refused submission, and was therefore suspended from his ministry with us till he should submit.

On the 18th November last Mr. Robert Burgess was ordained to the holy ministry, and appointed to labour as a domestic missionary within the bounds of Presbytery. At our last meeting in April, Presbytery dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. Andrew Walker and the united congregations of Union and Mount Pleasant, and also licensed Mr. Wm. Shaw to preach the everlasting gospel. We have, therefore, nine settled ministers, and two, viz., Robt. Burgess and A. Walker, without charge; also four licentiates, namely, Messrs. S. Herron, David Gillespie, John Alford, and Wm. Shaw, together with three or four students prosecuting initiatory studies.

Days of fasting and thanksgiving have been observed within our bounds.

Presbytery respectfully directs the attention of Synod to the subject of union with other ecclesiastical bodies who are substantially one with us. A paper on that subject is herewith submitted to Synod.

Two calls, one from Richland, under the care of the Ohio Presbytery, and the other from Bloomington, Ind., in the bounds of the Western Presbytery, have been presented to Mr. John Alford, and by him declined—he not being willing to settle any where at present, on account of the delicate state of his health.

(Signed) JOHN NEVIN, *Clerk.*

REPORT OF THE OHIO PRESBYTERY TO SYNOD.

The Ohio Presbytery reports that its condition is, on the whole, encouraging. There is harmony in our courts of judicature, a reasonable increase of our membership, and a partial supplying of the destitute with the ordinances of our holy religion. And, though no time of remarkable or special revival has been enjoyed, we are not without proofs of the Master's presence. Our presbyterial roll has been increased by the addition of the names of the Rev. J. A. Crawford and the Rev. Robert Patterson; the former of whom was, on the 8th of February last, installed over the congregation of Xenia; and the latter, having accepted a call from the Cincinnati congregation, is about to be located in that city.

A call has been made by the people of New Richland on Mr. John Alford, licentiate. We have but one regular student of theology, Mr. Nelson Crow, now in his second year of study, and who gives fair promise of effective service, should he be put in charge with the ministry.

We have four congregations with settled pastors—one in which a minister is about to be placed, and *three* which are as sheep without a shepherd.

We cannot adequately represent to Synod the anxiety with which we wait for some concerted and systematic movement on the part of Synod in behalf of the Theological Seminary, and of the cause of GOD among ourselves at home. Whatever may be the state of things elsewhere, we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that within our own presbyterial bounds our church is a sufferer from the want of that fostering care which Synod alone can give. Our settled ministers, while doing for vacant congregations far more than can reasonably be expected, are unequal to the emergencies of the case. We need men and means; and, were it proper, could name localities which would have been ours, had there been a helping hand held out to them by Synod through the presbytery. This is done in other churches, and to them those are turning who would gladly have received the ordinances from us, had we been able to give them. We can-

not be responsible for the *progress* of the Reformation cause among us, if we are to be left always with no adequate and appreciable help from Synod, and the church, as such.

We have no seminary, nor any fund from which young men may be helped while struggling, as many are compelled to do, with almost overmastering difficulties, in their attempt to reach the ministry. Other bodies of Christians hail and help them, and, by throwing around them the sympathies and maternal influence of the church, gain their confidence and affection, and, eventually, number them among their ministers. Will not Synod look to this matter? We are encouraged to ask this by the resolutions passed at your last meeting.

E. COOPER, *Pres. Clerk.*

REPORT OF THE WESTERN PRESBYTERY.

The Western Presbytery would respectfully report to the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church as follows:

That since the last meeting of this Synod, the Western Presbytery has been called on to mourn the death of the Rev. Gilbert M'Master, D. D., a father in the church, venerated and beloved. He departed this life March 17th, 1854, in the seventy-seventh year of his age. There has thus passed away from amongst us, full of days and of honour, and his labour done, the last of our aged ministers, the fathers of our church. They were, in their days, the chariots of Israel, and the horsemen thereof; and their names will long be had in memory, and be savoury with the church on earth, whilst also their record is on high. These chariots and horsemen are gone; but we trust the Lord our God, the Jehovah of hosts, has not also gone: let us, then, more closely draw near to, and trust in him.

The Rev. Theophilus A. Wylie has received a certificate and dismissal, with the design of connecting himself with the Ohio Presbytery. On the 18th of August, 1853, Mr. James Pearson was installed over the united congregations of Grand-Cote and Unity. We therefore report as belonging to the Presbytery, nine ministers, all with settled charges. We have also within our bounds, seven organized congregations, some of which are ripe for settlement; and also various other stations, all of which look to us for supplies of ordinances. To lengthen our cords, and to strengthen our stakes almost indefinitely, we need but men of the proper stamp, and God's Spirit to bless their labours—then would we break forth on the right hand and on the left, and the waste places would soon be inhabited. But, alas! it still remains true, that the harvest is great, but the labourers are few. It will be in place, also to state, in this connexion, that Presbytery considers the immediate re-establishment of our Theological Seminary, in the present condition of the churches, as a necessity without which we cannot long exist and prosper. The cause of God, as committed into our hands, we should commit to faithful men, who should be able to teach others; and such cannot be had without the proper training of the theological school.

All the persons appointed to labour in our bounds, during the last year, with the exception of Rev. Robert Patterson, have fulfilled their appointments in a manner acceptable, and, we trust, profitable to the people. But, as was said of the barley loaves and the two small fishes, what are they among so many? Since the age of miracles is past, if we have an object to accomplish, we must proportion the means to the end.

Presbytery would call the attention of Synod to the compensation of our home missionary labourers. The sum of six dollars per week is, at the present time, inadequate for their support, whatever might have been the case when that amount was fixed upon. We would therefore recommend that the allowance be raised to eight dollars; and that the resolutions adopted at last meeting of Synod in regard to travelling expenses be rescinded, the Board of Missions having it still in their power to allow for this purpose, in extraordinary

cases, when recommended by Presbytery. We also state, with pleasure, that from the congregational reports to Presbytery, we learn that a number of our congregations have, during the past year, resolved to increase the salary of their pastors, which good example we trust the rest will follow, until all our ministers receive an adequate support.

A call upon Mr. John Alford has been made by the congregation of Bloomington, Ind. This call was sustained as regular, and ordered to be transferred to the Pittsburgh Presbytery, to which Mr. Alford belongs, that it might be presented to him for reception or rejection.

A call has also been made by a number of our people in Washington, formerly Oregon, Territory, upon the Rev. Michael Harshaw, to go there and labour among them; but as Mr. Harshaw was not present at our meeting this spring, we cannot state what will be the result of the call. All feel that a missionary on the shores of the Pacific, from our church, as it has been greatly desired, so, as an accomplished fact, it would be greatly rejoiced in.

The days of fasting and thanksgiving have been attended to in our congregations.

We have also to report, that amongst the people, the disposition and will to help forward the cause of missions, both foreign and domestic, are steadily increasing. More are now saying, than in the days past, "For Zion's sake I will not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth." And may we then not soon hope that "kings will come to her light, and the Gentiles to the brightness of her rising."

We farther report, that we consider the time has come for a division of the Western Presbytery. And believing that the cause of God, as committed to us, would be promoted by such a division, we would respectfully ask you to direct such division—making the National road, running east and west, the line between the Presbyteries—the one south of this line to retain the name of the Western, the one north to be designated and known as the Chicago Presbytery.

Finally, we would recommend Chicago to the attention of this Synod, as a place where the labours of a suitable missionary might be employed with immediate profit, and with great prospective advantage to the church. The matter is urged by the Session of the First Church, and would, of course, meet with their hearty co-operation.

That the Spirit may be poured out from on high on the members of Synod, is our earnest prayer.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN M'MASTER, *Clerk of Presbytery.*

Philadelphia, May 17th, 1854.

REPORT OF THE SAHARANPUR PRESBYTERY.

The members of the Saharanpur Presbytery, not having received the minutes of the last meeting of Synod, and but little information regarding the business transacted at it, feel the great inconvenience of being so widely separated from their brethren, to whom they still retain so warm an attachment. On this account, it seems highly desirable that some measures should be adopted by Synod to draw still more closely the bonds of ecclesiastical union, that so happily exists between us. We would therefore suggest, that at each meeting of Synod, a committee of correspondence be appointed to communicate with us by letter, regarding the leading transactions of Synod.

During the last year, there have been under the care of this Presbytery, four students of theology. Another student, Matthew Brown, not formally connected with us, prosecuted his studies for several months, but afterwards left the mission. These young men, at present diligent labourers in missionary work, are making good progress in study, and becoming well qualified for more extensive usefulness in future. At a meeting of Presbytery in October, after

delivering very satisfactory pieces of trial, in Theology and Church History, and sustaining a close examination afterwards, two of them, namely, Gilbert M'Master, and John N. M'Leod, were admitted to the rank of catechists, or instructors in religion; and it is hoped that this step is only preparatory to full licensure to preach the Gospel to their heathen countrymen. Indeed, to raise up a *native* ministry to aid the foreign missionary, is one of the most important objects in the view of this Presbytery.

The church under our care has, under the blessing of God, enjoyed a share of prosperity during the past year, and no case of discipline has come under our notice. Four persons were received to the church, and now the number of communicants, including the mission families and some East Indians, amounts to twenty-four. The preaching of the Gospel was never so well attended before. Nearly all the foreign residents at the station attend our English preaching, so that our new church is well filled on the Sabbath. The Gospel is made known, not only on the Sabbath, but daily, to the heathen; and the assemblies that come together to hear the word of God are large and attentive.

Some months past, Mr. Woodside commenced a new mission station at Dehra, about fifty miles distant, where he conducts schools and religious services like those at this place; and it is expected that in a few weeks a church will be organized at that station, and placed under the care of this Presbytery.

We would again call the attention of Synod to the crying wants of this part of the Gospel field. For hundreds of miles around us, and, indeed, throughout the greater part of this immense and populous country, there is an *entire destitution* of the Gospel; while, at the same time, the *whole land* is fairly and fully open, and ready to receive the labours of Christian benevolence. Under an impressive view of the gross idolatry that surrounds us, and of the duty of the Christian world to the dying heathen, we would again ask for more labourers and more means to spread the Gospel in India. Will not more of your devoted licentiates turn their faces to the heathen, and "come over and help us" to carry out the *last command* of the Saviour, to "preach the Gospel to every creature?" In this attempt we feel confident you would be fully sustained by the liberal contributions of the church. We most cordially approve of the attempts you have lately made, through the agent of our Board of Missions, to stir up the church, and to commence the plan of *systematic benevolence* in all your congregations; and we cannot but take this opportunity of expressing our admiration of the tact, the talents, and the zeal of that devoted brother. We expect great and important results to the cause of domestic and foreign missions to follow his well advised and energetic labours.

Brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be crowned with an abundant success, in this heathen land, as it is with you. That you may all enjoy the blessing of God on your important labours, and his guidance and presence in your deliberations, is our fervent prayer.

By order of Presbytery.

J. R. CAMPBELL, *Clerk.*

Saharanpur, Feb. 3, 1854.

The committee (Drs. M'Leod, Guthrie, and H. M'Millan) appointed to bring in a minute on the death of the late Rev. Gilbert M'Master, D. D., reported a minute. It was approved, and ordered to be recorded. It is as follows:

MINUTE ON THE DEATH OF THE LATE REV. DR. M'MASTER.

The committee respectfully report to Synod the following minute: The Rev. Gilbert M'Master, D. D., was, at the time of his decease, the oldest minister of the Reformed Presbyterian church in the United States. In his removal, the last link in the chain which con-

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nected the past and present generations of the ministry is broken; and they who have heretofore considered themselves the sons, are now become the fathers in our ecclesiastical organization. Born near Belfast, in the north of Ireland, on the 13th of February, 1778, he died in New Albany, State of Indiana, on the 17th of March, 1854, in the seventy-seventh year of his age, and forty-sixth of his ministry. Trained originally to the medical profession, he left it when prospects of emolument and usefulness were before him; and having acceded to the communion of the Reformed Presbyterian church, he prepared to enter her ministry, and ever after remained the firm, decided, intelligent friend of the cause he had espoused. As a man, Dr. M'Master was of fine and commanding personal appearance; his intellect was of a very high order, and cultivated by intercourse with the best men and books. He had a large heart, full of generous impulses, capable of the firmest friendship, and unconscious of envy, jealousy, or malicious emotions towards others. Noble, courteous, refined, he attracted the affection, as he commanded the respect of all who knew, and could appreciate his character. As a Christian, he was marked by an intimate acquaintance with the plan of salvation, which filled his soul with admiration; and by a very large measure of religious experience, by which he was made humble, and yet earnest and zealous in the discharge of duty. As a minister of Jesus Christ, Dr. M'Master was distinguished for dignity and consistency of character. He preached the Gospel with great plainness, and at the same time with great power. As a catechist, he had no superior. As a professor, he was learned, discriminating, and eminently scriptural. As an ecclesiastic, he took a chief part in the business of the religious bodies to which he belonged, and was always found on the side of truth and order. As an author, he was ornate, serious, instructive, and had a large share in the preparation of ecclesiastical documents, many of which are of permanent value. Giving evidence of a large measure of the Spirit of God, he consecrated himself, with all he possessed, to the service of the Redeemer, whom he loved. But he is gone. Synod will see his face, and hear his voice no more. They mourn his departure, they miss his counsel; but they record with gratitude this public memorial of his worth.

Resolved, that the Stated Clerk be directed to send a copy of this paper to the family of the lamented deceased, with the sincere sympathies of the Church, in supreme judicatory assembled.

The committees on the records of the Philadelphia and Western Presbyteries reported. Their reports were approved.

Resolved, that the Clerk publish, in connexion with the Minutes, the names and post-office address of all the ministers of the Reformed Presbyterian Church.

The following resolution, offered by Mr. S. Little, was adopted by Synod:

“Whereas, It is represented to this court that the occupancy of the church known as the Rocky Creek Church, in Chester District, S. C., has, by the emigration of its members, fallen into the hands of another branch of the church: And whereas, the grave-yard adjacent, containing the graves of at least four of the pioneer ministers of the R. P. Church, is without protection: Therefore—

“Resolved, That J. C. McMillan, of Xenia, Ohio, be, and he is hereby ap-

pointed to make inquiry in relation to the present condition of said property, and report the same to Synod at its next annual meeting, accompanied by such suggestions relative to the best method of securing it, and enclosing the burial-ground, as the information he may obtain may enable him to give."

Rev. J. A. Crawford offered the following resolution. It was, on motion, laid on the table for the present:

"In order that they who labour in the word and doctrine among us, may be freed from undue anxiety in regard to their worldly affairs, and that thus their church may interpose, so far as she can, to prevent the ministry from becoming secularized: Therefore—

"Resolved, That this Synod recommend to the various Presbyteries to bring this matter *at once* before the people, thus giving to it the weight of its official influence.

"Resolved, That each minister be directed to preach upon the subject in his own pulpit.

"Resolved, That a collection be taken up statedly for the avowed purpose of raising the salaries of our ministers to dollars."

Resolved, that a committee of one from each presbytery be appointed to nominate a Board of Missions. They are Mr. W. Agnew, Rev. A. G. M'Auley, Mr. H. Sterling, Rev. E. Cooper, and G. Scott.

The resolution in reference to the delegated Synod was taken up. Mr. G. H. Stuart moved that the further consideration of this motion be indefinitely postponed. Pending this, Synod adjourned, Rev. Dr. Black (who received leave of absence for the remainder of the sessions) concluding by prayer.

Same place, 9½ o'clock, A. M. May 23.

Synod met, and was opened by prayer. Same members present as before, absentees excepted. Minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. A. M. Stewart, Mr. James N. Gifford, Rev. J. M'Master.

Resolved, that the thanks of Synod be presented to Rev. Dr. Heron for his excellent sermon on personal holiness, and that he be requested to furnish a copy for publication in the Banner of the Covenant.

The committee on the Theological Seminary presented their report. It was accepted for consideration.

Resolved, that when Synod adjourn this morning, it be to meet at half past 7 o'clock, P. M., that the special order of the day be hearing the reports of the Board of Missions, and that all committees be directed to be prepared to report at that time.

Proceeded to consider the report of the committee on the Theological Seminary article by article.

The preamble was, on motion, stricken out. Resolution first was amended and adopted. Resolutions second and third were adopted. The whole report was then adopted. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

The committee beg leave respectfully to report to Synod, that they have given the subject submitted to their attention the consideration its importance demands.

As Synod have already determined the main questions, in fixing the location, and in appointing the professors, all that is further necessary is, to suggest such plans as will carry into effect the resolutions already adopted.

Taking it for granted, then, that it is a settled question that the Seminary shall be revived, and that it is the design of Synod, having established it, to give it a cordial and liberal support, the committee proceed to offer to Synod the following recommendations:

1. *As to the period of study.*—This they recommend to be a session of four months, commencing on the first Monday of November, and ending on the first Wednesday of March.

2. *As to the raising and custody of funds.*—This your committee recommend should be committed to competent men, who should be empowered to raise such means as are required from the voluntary contributions of the church, as is done in the other financial boards of General Synod. They therefore recommend that the Board of Superintendents be composed of a minister from each Presbytery, together with the trustees hereinafter mentioned; and that to this body shall belong the government of the institution, with the care of its interests generally. Of this Board, five members, who shall be residents of the State of Pennsylvania, shall constitute a Board of Trustees, to be styled, "The Trustees of the Theological Seminary of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church." And to them it shall belong to take charge of any funds or other property that may be contributed for the use of the institution; and in order to this, they are directed to procure an act of incorporation from the proper authorities—this Board to appoint their own Treasurer. It is further recommended that the professors shall constitute a Faculty, to whom shall belong the immediate care of the students, and the direction of their studies and conduct.

3. *As to the salaries of the professors.*—These they would recommend to fix for the present at the sum of \$300 per annum for each professor, which is to be raised in such way as may be indicated by the superintendents, or the immediate act of the supreme judicatory. And it is further recommended, that the Board of Superintendents be directed to meet immediately after the adjournment of Synod, to devise plans for the support of the institution, for obtaining a library, for securing a site for Seminary buildings, and for submitting, by an address or otherwise, the claims of the institution to young men who may be seeking the ministry, and to the liberal support of all parts of the Church, under the care of General Synod.

Feeling this subject to be one of great gravity and importance, they submit the whole to the deliberate action of the General Synod.

All which is respectfully submitted, by order of the committee.

Signed,

JOHN N. McLEOD, *Chairman.*

Philadelphia, May 23, 1854.

Rev. J. McMillan proposed a resolution in the case of Rev. W. Wilson, D. D.* A motion was made to adopt it. Upon this the previous question was moved, but refused by Synod—ayes 18, nays 24, not voting, 3. Dr. McLeod moved that this paper, with the whole subject to which it relates, be indefinitely postponed. Pending this, Synod adjourned, the Moderator concluding by prayer.

Same place, 7½ o'clock, P. M.

Synod met, and was opened by prayer. Same members present as before. The Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The committee on union presented their report. It was accepted, and a motion made for its adoption. By general consent it was laid on the table for the present.

Resolved, that the presbyteries assemble at once, and nominate respectively a Superintendent for the Seminary.

* NOTE.—This document could not be found among the papers. It was not adopted.

Synod took a recess for ten minutes. Resumed business. Presbyteries reported each a Superintendent, as follow:

Northern Presbytery—Rev. A. G. Wylie.

Philadelphia Presbytery—Dr. Crawford.

Pittsburgh Presbytery—Dr. Guthrie.

Ohio Presbytery—Rev. J. A. Crawford.

Western Presbytery—Rev. J. M'Master.

Chicago Presbytery—Rev. J. W. Morrison.

The following were appointed Trustees:—G. H. Stuart, Henry Sterling, Joseph Fleming, R. Steenson, John Ewer.

The committee on the sustentation fund presented their report. It was accepted, and laid on the table.

The Treasurer of the Board of Missions presented his report on domestic missions. It was accepted, and referred to the auditing committee. He also presented the report on foreign missions, which was accepted, and referred to the same committee. (See reports in Appendix.)

The Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Missions, (Rev. T. W. J. Wylie,) presented the report of the Board for the year. It was accepted. On a motion for its adoption, proceeded to the consideration of the proposal, made in the report, to designate one or more missionaries to India, after spending some time in prayer, fasting, and conference. Occupying with this the remainder of the evening, it was, on motion of Dr. M'Leod,

Resolved, that Synod postpone the other orders of the day, spend the forenoon of to-morrow in fasting and prayer, and thus seek the special direction of God in regard to the very important matter about which they are now engaged.

Synod then adjourned, the Moderator concluding by prayer.

Same place, May 24. 9½ o'clock, A. M.

Synod met, and was opened by prayer. Same members present as before. The Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Proceeded to the special order of the day, the proposed designation of additional missionaries to Northern India.

Rev. Dr. M'Leod read the ninth chapter of the book of Daniel, and led in prayer. Mr. George H. Stuart led in singing the forty-third Psalm, from the third verse to the end, and in prayer. Rev. Dr. Guthrie read the closing verses of the twenty-eighth chapter of the gospel by Matthew, and made upon them some pertinent observations. The Moderator led in singing the 18th and 19th verses of the seventy-third Psalm, and pronounced the benediction. The following resolution was offered, considered, and adopted:

Resolved, that not less than two additional missionaries be sent to the heathen world.

Pending the consideration of this, the following paper was offered by Mr. John Black. It was read, and, on motion, referred to the Board of Missions. It is as follows:—

“Whereas, We have heard a cry from our brethren in India, like that from Macedonia, earnestly beseeching us to go over and help them: now, we think such an importunate and bitter cry for help, together with the indications of Divine Providence, ought to lead us as Christians, and as a court of Jesus Christ, at once to respond to it. And in order that this may be effectually carried into execution, not only now, but at any future time when missionaries are needed for the foreign field: Therefore—

“Resolved, That we do now appoint a standing committee, whose duty it shall be to seek out such a number of men as Synod may require from time to time, and such as they can recommend for missionary labour in a foreign field; and that the same be reported to Synod at its annual meetings.”

Resolved, that Dr. Guthrie, T. W. J. Wylie, and R. Patterson be a committee to confer with any ministers, or other members of the Church, who may be inclined to offer themselves, for the foreign field. Mr. G. H. Stuart was added to this committee, and also Rev. John Newton, as a consultative member.

Proceeded to the consideration of the remainder of the report.

The recommendation of the report, making eight dollars the per diem for domestic missionaries in future, travelling expenses to be paid only when specially ordered by Presbytery, was adopted.

The recommendation of a division of the Board, and the establishment of a Board of Domestic Missions in Pittsburgh, was adopted. The whole report was then, on motion, adopted.

A communication was received from Rev. Dr. Ducachet, of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, inviting the Synod to visit, at their convenience, the statuary in that Church. Whereupon it was, on motion,

Resolved, that the thanks of Synod be returned to Rev. Dr. Ducachet for his courteous letter and invitation, that Synod accept it, and refer the communication to the Assistant Clerk to reply to it, and make arrangements for the visit.

Mr. George H. Stuart offered the following preamble and resolutions, which were adopted:

“Whereas, The subject referred to in the paper presented yesterday by the Rev. John McMillan, has been so frequently and fully discussed at other meetings of this Synod, so that no new light can now be thrown on the subject: And whereas, it is important to the peace of our Zion that this matter should now be finally settled, and that without engendering any feelings contrary to that spirit of brotherly love which has thus far characterized our deliberations as a court of the Lord Jesus Christ: Be it, therefore,

“Resolved—1st. That the whole subject referred to and contained in the said paper be committed to the Rev. Hugh McMillan, Henry Sterling, Rev. T. W. J. Wylie, Rev. David J. Patterson, and Rev. A. M. Stewart, and that they be requested to have a conference with the Rev. Dr. Wilson, and to report the result this afternoon.

“Resolved—2d. That the report of this committee shall be made the special order of the day after the reading of the minutes this afternoon, and that when the report is read the moderator shall call upon the oldest minister to address a throne of grace, after which the vote on the report shall be taken without debate.”

Mr. G. H. Stuart and the Moderator were added to the committee.

Resolved, that the thanks of Synod be returned to all the railroad companies which have furnished accommodations to their members.

The committee on the records of the Northern and Pittsburgh Presbyteries, reported respectively. Reports approved.

The Finance Committee presented their report. It was approved. It is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

The Committee on Finance respectfully report that they have received for travelling expense, &c.:

Rev. J. Nevins, 300 miles,	-	-	-	-	-	5	73
“ George Scott, 350 miles,	-	-	-	-	-	6	68
“ D. J. Patterson, 90 miles,	-	-	-	-	-	1	71
“ James S. Scott, 1,100 miles,	-	-	-	-	-	21	01
“ Wm. D. Silliman, 500 miles,	-	-	-	-	-	9	55
“ A. M. Stewart, 800 miles,	-	-	-	-	-	15	28
“ Andrew Walker, 320 miles,	-	-	-	-	-	6	11
“ Samuel Wylie, 1,100 miles,	-	-	-	-	-	21	01
“ A. G. Wylie, 270 miles,	-	-	-	-	-	5	16
Mr. Francis Beatty, 310 miles,	-	-	-	-	-	5	92
“ John Black, 310 miles,	-	-	-	-	-	5	92
“ John Caskey, 300 miles,	-	-	-	-	-	5	73
“ Geo. H. Caskey, 800 miles,	-	-	-	-	-	15	28
“ John Dickey, 316 miles,	-	-	-	-	-	6	04
“ J. S. Elliott, 550 miles,	-	-	-	-	-	10	50
“ Wm. Kennedy, 800 miles,	-	-	-	-	-	15	28
“ Samuel Little, 600 miles,	-	-	-	-	-	11	46
“ James Scott, 340 miles,	-	-	-	-	-	6	49
“ Henry Sterling, 300 miles,	-	-	-	-	-	5	73
						\$322	22
Leaving balance,	-	-	-	-	-		78
						\$323	00

Which we recommend to be given to the most distant members.

THE COMMITTEE.

The Committee on the Signs of the Times presented their report. It was accepted and laid on the table. Synod then adjourned, Rev. A. G. Wylie concluding by prayer.

Same place, 4 o'clock, P. M.

Synod met, and was opened by prayer. Same members present as before. The Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The committee on the records of the Ohio Presbytery, presented their report, which was approved.

The committee, appointed under the resolution of Mr. G. H. Stuart, having reference to the case of Rev. W. Wilson, presented their report.

Rev. J. W. Morrison and T. W. J. Wylie (of the committee) dissented from the report, “recognising Dr. W. as a member of this Synod;” they insisting that re-admission or restoration was necessary, inasmuch as he had been declared by Synod “out of the communion of the Reformed Presbyterian Church.” The report was accepted.

The following resolution was offered:

Resolved, that Synod call on (a member) to give thanks that this matter has been settled.

It was moved as a substitute for this, that Rev. W. Wilson has not given sufficient satisfaction. The substitute was not entertained. The ayes and nays were called for on this vote—ayes 10, nays 27, not voting 4—several members absent.

The report was then adopted, and the name of W. Wilson, D. D., directed to be recorded on the roll. It is as follows:

“The committee to whom was referred the paper relative to the case of W. Wilson, D. D., report for adoption the following preamble and resolutions, viz.:

“Whereas, This Synod regrets the discussions which have taken place in regard to the case of the Rev. Dr. Wilson: And whereas, Dr. Wilson expresses his sincere sorrow for what has been offensive to his brethren:

“Resolved, That he be recognised as a member of this Synod, and that the Ohio Presbytery be directed to enter his name on their roll, and receive his congregation under their care.”

COMMITTEE.

Rev. S. Wylie, being called upon, addressed the throne of grace.

Resolved, that the next place of meeting be decided by calling the roll.

Pittsburgh was fixed upon by a majority of votes—the time to be the fourth Wednesday of May, 1855, at half-past 7 o'clock, P. M.

Resolved, that Rev. H. M'Millan be appointed a delegate to the Scottish and Irish Synods.

The committee on obtaining missionaries for India reported. Report accepted and adopted. It is as follows:

The committee to receive applications, and to recommend suitable persons to be appointed and sent out by Synod to Northern India, as missionaries, met and opened with prayer. A number of ministers and licentiates were present, and expressed their willingness to go to heathen lands for Christ's sake. After deliberation on the matter, the committee unanimously recommend to Synod the Rev. D. Herron and Mr. William Calderwood to be appointed, and in due time that they be sent to join our brethren now labouring in the foreign field.

All which is respectfully submitted by the committee.

The committee of supplies presented their report. It was accepted, amended, and adopted. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF SUPPLIES.

The Committee of Supplies report to Synod, that they have at their disposal the services of three ministers and seven probationers. They recommend that the following distribution be made of these:

- Rev. E. Cooper—spend in the Northern Presbytery, June, July, August, September, October, and November.
 — in the Western Presbytery, December, January, February, March, April, and May.
- Rev. A. Walker—spend in the Ohio Presbytery, June.
 — in the Western Presbytery, July, August, September, October, November, and December.
 — in Pittsburgh Presbytery, the remainder of the Synodical year.
- Mr. John Alford—spend in the Northern Presbytery, June, July, August, and September.
 — in the Philadelphia Presbytery, October and November.
 — in the Western Presbytery the rest of the Synodical year.
- Mr. Shaw—spend in the Ohio Presbytery, June, July, August, and September.
 — in the Western Presbytery, October and November.
 — in the Pittsburgh Presbytery the remainder of the Synodical year.
- Mr. John M'Corkell—spend in the Northern Presbytery, June and July.
 — in the Pittsburgh Presbytery, August, September, and October.
 — in the Western Presbytery the rest of the Synodical year.

- Rev. A. R. Gaily—spend in the Pittsburgh Presbytery, June, July, August, September, October, and November.
 — in the Ohio Presbytery, December and January.
 — in the Northern Presbytery the rest of the Synodical year.
- Mr. S. Heron—spend in the Northern Presbytery, June, July, and August.
 — in the Philadelphia Presbytery, September and half of October.
 — in the Ohio Presbytery, half of October, November, and half of December.
 — in the Western Presbytery the remainder of the Synodical year.
- Mr. D. Gillespie—spend in the Pittsburgh Presbytery, June, July, August, and September.
 — in the Western Presbytery, October, November, December, and January.
 spend in the Northern Presbytery the remainder of the Synodical year.
- Mr. W. T. Wylie—spend in the Philadelphia Presbytery, June.
 — in the Western Presbytery the remainder of the Synodical year.

The committee recommend that the station in Chicago be commenced as soon as possible, and that the trial be made there for at least one year.

Signed by the committee.

The committee (Rev. G. Scott and Dr. Heron) appointed to wait on the professors elect, and receive their decision, reported that they had received in writing, from Dr. M'Leod, his respectful declination of the professorship of "didactic and practical theology," to which he had been chosen; and also that the other professors elect were not yet prepared to give a final answer.

Dr. M'Leod addressed the Synod, furnishing reasons at length for his declination, and returning thanks to Synod for the appointment made.

Resolved, that Rev. S. W. Crawford, D. D., be elected to fill the vacant chair.

Dr. Crawford being chosen, declared his intention to decline the appointment. He however consented to take the subject into further consideration.

Pending this, Synod adjourned, Rev. J. M'Millan concluding by prayer.

Same place, 7½ o'clock, P. M.

Synod met, and was opened by prayer. Same members present as before. The Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Rev. John M'Master declared his intention to enter his protest, on his own behalf, and on that of all others who might join with him, against the action of Synod in the case of Rev. W. Wilson, D. D.

Resolved, that a committee be appointed to answer reasons of protest.

They are Rev. Dr. Heron, Dr. Guthrie, and H. M'Millan.

The committee to nominate the boards of missions reported. Report accepted and adopted. It is as follows:

Board of Foreign Missions—Rev. Dr. M'Leod, A. G. Wylie, D. J. Patterson, S. L. Finney, Dr. Crawford, T. W. J. Wylie, R. J. Black, W. Sterrett, A. G. M'Auley, Dr. Black, G. Scott, John Nevin, R. Pat-

terson, Dr. Heron, J. A. Crawford, H. M. Millan, J. M. Master, Samuel Wylie, A. M. Stewart, ministers; and James N. Gifford, Thomas Cumming, W. Matthews, G. H. Stuart, R. Steenson, J. Kemps, Jos. Fleming, T. Smith, Peter Gibson, Daniel M. Millan, W. Kennedy, A. Alcorn, ruling elders.

Board of Domestic Missions—Rev. Dr. Guthrie, Dr. Black, G. Scott, J. Douglas, J. Nevin, G. R. M. Millan, R. Patterson, Samuel Wylie, W. Sterrett, S. L. Finney, ministers; and Henry Sterling, Gabriel Adams, W. Scott, J. N. Ewer, John M. Fann, Jas. C. M. Millan, William Agnew, ruling elders.

The Committee on Psalmody presented their report. It was accepted and adopted. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PSALMODY.

The Committee on Psalmody respectfully report, that they have given such attention to the subject intrusted to their care as they have been able to render, but as they are not prepared yet to recommend anything definite, they suggest that the committee be continued until next Synod, and that they be authorized to consider and report upon any action which may be taken by the brethren of the Associate Reformed Church, when it shall be submitted to them.

Signed by the committee.

Resolved, that the Boards of Foreign and Domestic Missions be directed to have their reports ready the second day after the meeting of Synod.

A circular of the Presbyterian Historical Society was presented and filed.

Proceeded to consider the report of the Committee on Union, on the motion for its adoption. It was moved to postpone the further consideration of this subject until next meeting of Synod. Pending this, Synod adjourned, Rev. D. J. Patterson concluding by prayer.

Same place, May 25. 9½ o'clock, A. M.

Synod met, and was opened by prayer. Same members present as before. The Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The auditing committee presented their report. It was approved.

Rev. J. M. Millan presented the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, that the generous offer of the congregation at Xenia, to raise a fund for the aid of theological students, in view of the possibility of the Seminary being established in that place, is appreciated by this Synod, and is regarded as an earnest of the sustentation which that congregation, in common with all others under the care of this Synod, are determined to give to the Theological Seminary, as now permanently established in Philadelphia.

Rev. George Scott offered the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, that the cordial thanks of Synod be, and hereby are, tendered to the citizens of Philadelphia for their hospitalities to the members.

Resolved, that the Stated Clerk be directed to publish the Minutes in the Banner of the Covenant, and, in pamphlet form, as many extra copies as may be necessary.

Resolved, that Rev. Dr. Andrew W. Black be requested to publish for the information of the Church, an edition of the sermon of the late Rev. Dr. John Black on Church fellowship.

Mr. George H. Stuart was, on motion, appointed Treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions. Mr. Henry Sterling was appointed Treasurer of the Board of Domestic Missions.

Rev. David Herron presented the following preamble and resolution as a substitute for the whole matter, now before Synod, on the subject of union with other ecclesiastical bodies. It was entertained and adopted:

Whereas, the efforts that have been made after organic union with other churches, have not been successful; and, whereas, to resume these efforts at the present time does not promise to gain the end desired; therefore—

Resolved, that Synod will give this subject the attention which it may deserve, according to the indications of Providence.

Rev. John M'Master presented his protest against the decision of Synod in the case of Rev. W. Wilson, D. D. It was concurred in by ten other members of Synod, whose names are as follow:—T. W. J. Wylie, John N. M'Leod, John Black, E. Cooper, John Nevin, James N. Gifford, Andrew Gifford Wylie, William Agnew, James Neely, R. J. Black.

Mr. George H. Stuart offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That in the increasing liberality of our people to the cause of God, the willingness to witness for Christ among the heathen, expressed by so many of our ministers, licentiates, and students of theology, and the spirit of peace and love which has been poured out upon this Synod, in answer to prayer, we recognise, with humble gratitude, the beginning of that time of revival which the Lord has promised to his Church; and we hereby most affectionately and earnestly urge upon all our ministers and people that, with feelings of deep contrition for all our manifold shortcomings in times past, and of humble dependence on the promised influences of the Holy Spirit, we press forward in the cultivation of personal holiness, the practice of systematic and increased liberality, and the daily offering of fervent prayer, until we behold the establishment of the kingdom of Christ the Lord in every land.

Resolved, that a committee be raised to provide funds for paying the expenses of the delegate to the transatlantic sister Churches. G. H. Stuart, J. N. Gifford, H. Sterling, W. Kennedy, J. C. M'Millan, are the committee.

The report of the Committee on the Signs of the Times was taken up and adopted. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

The committee on the signs of the times would respectfully submit the following report:—

In contemplating the subject, there is much to be seen calculated to cheer and animate the hopes of the Christian; and, also, much tending to discourage, or, at least, to try his faith. The cloud is broad and dark—the bow, however, is bright and perfect.

The spirit of the world, always too prevalent, is now pre-eminently so. Professors, of all ranks and localities, are in danger of being borne along with the secular current to the great injury of a world lying in wickedness, and to the cause of the Redeemer in it. The unparalleled improvements of the age afford such facilities for secular enterprise that all over the Gospel field the good seed is in danger of being choked by the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches. That divine prediction delivered by Jesus, from the

Mount of Olives, seems, at this day, to be literally fulfilled, viz:—"Because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold."

In view of the visible body of Christ, also, there are many signs or symptoms not indicative of a sound or healthy condition. In place of brotherly love continuing, as the bond of Christian union and communion, how loudly are the friends of Zion urged to unite with Paul in bewailing the existence of "debates, envyings, wraths, strifes, backbitings, whisperings, swellings, tumults." In place of hearty and efficient co-operation in the work of our Divine Master, this unhallowed train—the legitimate brood of party spirit—distracts and paralyzes not only the affections but energies of God's people.

Under the combined and powerful influences of a secular and party spirit, it would seem as if the servants of God had either scarcely heard, or were but little influenced by the divine command, "Go, work to-day in my vineyard." Whilst the ways of Zion do thus mourn, and whilst her friends are called upon to weep in secret over her distractions and desolations; and whilst the groan of dying millions is heard with strange indifference by the mass of professors, the man of sin—the son of perdition—who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, whose coming is after the working of Satan, with all power and signs, and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish, presents a haughty, daring, and emphatically anti-Christian aspect.

Over the political heavens, also, dark and ominous clouds are rapidly gathering. Every possessor of royalty amongst the nations of the earth may fitly employ the language of Jeremiah: "I cannot hold my peace, because thou hast heard, O, my soul, the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war." A general conflict between light and darkness—between liberty and despotism—seems to be approaching. The prospect is indeed deeply and painfully interesting, as the hostile legions are seen to be gathering rapidly and densely around their respective standards. Here and there already upon the tented field may be witnessed "the battle of the warrior, with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood." The principal scene of conflict may indeed be laid in the East, yet the West will not escape. God seems to say, in his providence: "I will shake *all* nations." In our own extensive and singularly-favoured land, the seeds of strife—the elements of embittered controversy—are widely spread. The halls of our supreme legislature, in place of exhibiting to the world a peaceful and favourable specimen of national unity and national honour, are too frequently converted into a theatre for the display of the most unamiable and dishonourable passions of the mere unprincipled partisan. Our Declaration of independence claims for every unoffending man a right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; yet there are not efforts wanting to convert the whole federal government into an engine of injustice and oppression. From our national council, indeed, down to the individual citizen, through all the grades of social life, an unhappy element of selfishness is to be found, together with a lamentable absence of that generous and reciprocal confidence which should subsist between man and man. The cardinal evil in all the catalogue of social and individual wrong, is to be found in the practical denial of the supremacy of the Lord Jesus Christ, and his divine law, over man in all his relations and all his duties, whether civil or religious.

For these and similar reasons, the committee would recommend the first Thursday of February, 1855, to be observed as a day of fasting, humiliation, and prayer throughout our congregations.

The evils, however, which we contemplate, and over which we are called religiously to mourn, are not unmitigated. There is much in the present aspect of Divine Providence calculated to cheer the heart of the believer, and to call forth its warmest expressions of gratitude to Almighty God.

Although the enemy may be permitted to come in like a flood, yet the Spirit of the Lord is lifting up successfully a standard against him. "Though the

waters roar and be troubled; though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof, there is a river, the streams whereof make glad the city of God."—Although the spirit of the world may be intensely active, yet many of God's people are graciously led, not only to remember, but to understand the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Although the Church is far from coming up to the measure of her duty in extending the Redeemer's kingdom, yet the spirit of missions, which is the spirit of Christ, was never perhaps, since the days of the apostles, so happily and extensively diffused throughout the churches. God has been, in his wise providence, employing various instrumentalities, well fitted to arouse such as are at case in Zion, and to enlist their sympathies and energies in the work of Christ. His voice is heard in the pestilence that walketh in darkness, and in the destruction that wasteth at noonday: it is heard in solemn accents from the marshalled hosts—upon the high seas, and on the banks of the Danube—in the agonies of the dying, and the sighs escaping from desolated hearts and homes: its impressive utterance is heard from the graves of departed fathers and brethren in Christ: it is heard in the faithful, earnest, and stirring appeals of God's chosen ambassadors who, with a divine unction and holy energy, are beseeching sinners, in Christ's stead, to be reconciled to God. Under these and similar influences, as made efficient by the Holy Ghost sent down, gladness is imparted to the wilderness and the solitary place; the desert is made to rejoice and blossom as the rose. Although the god of this world, who blinds the minds of them which believe not, has still extensive dominion, yet the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, is beginning to shine upon every kindred, and nation, and people, and language under heaven.

The ancient barriers, which so long opposed the extension of the Redeemer's kingdom, are, in the providence of God, being rapidly removed. Zion seems every where to be addressed in the language of the prophet, "Arise! shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." Her ambassadors are bidden to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God. With truth it may be said, "The Lord hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God."

The signs of the times justify us in saying to Zion, in the language of inspiration and encouragement, "Break forth into joy; sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem, for the Lord hath comforted his people. Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing; for they shall see eye to eye, when the Lord shall bring again Zion."

In view of these and other causes of gratitude, your committee would recommend that the third Wednesday of November, 1854, be observed in all our congregations as a day of thanksgiving to Almighty God.

Signed by the committee.

The resolution of Rev. Mr. Crawford, on raising the salaries of the ministers of the Church, was, on motion, postponed until next meeting of Synod.

Synod then adjourned, the Moderator concluding by prayer.

Same place, 3½ o'clock, P. M.

Synod met, and was opened by prayer. Same members present as before. The Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Resolved, that next Synod meet in the First Reformed Presbyterian Church. Pittsburgh.

Rev. Dr. McLeod was appointed a superintendent of the Theological Seminary. Proceeded to the consideration of the report on the sustentation fund. On motion, it was referred to the Board of Home Missions.

Resolved, that the thanks of Synod be returned to Mr. George H. Stuart for the able and efficient manner in which he has discharged his duties as Treasurer of the Board of Missions.

A paper was presented by Rev. David Herron, in relation to his appointment to the foreign field. It was referred to the Board of Missions. It is as follows:

To the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church:

Rev. Fathers and Brethren,—The chairman of your committee to designate and recommend proper persons for the mission in India, requested me to be present at their meeting. I met with them, according to request. In answer to their interrogatories, respecting my willingness to go to India, I answered that I had not made this matter a subject of thought, that I could then urge no objection against my going, and that, if I felt qualified for the work, and assured that Christ was calling me to it, I would be willing to go. According to the resolution then passed, they mentioned my name in their report. Your approval of their recommendation is not to be disregarded. I will take this matter into prayerful consideration, consulting my congregation and friends, and asking, fathers and brethren, your counsel and prayers, in order to determine my duty. To act rashly in this matter might be, during my life, a subject of regret to myself and the Church. I am Christ's; I desire to be disposed of for his glory.

DAVID HERRON.

Rev. A. M. Stewart presented the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, that this Synod, feeling the importance of renewing and making more prominent her testimony on the subject of slavery, hereby appoints a committee of three to present this subject to Synod at its next meeting, and that, in the meantime, all our ministers and members be directed to maintain and exhibit faithfully and forcibly the testimony of the Reformed Presbyterian Church against slaveholding.

Rev. T. W. J. Wylie, J. W. Morrison, and A. M. Stewart, are that committee.

Dr. McLeod offered the following resolution, which was adopted.

Resolved, that the professors in the Theological Seminary be authorized to make such arrangements, in reference to the subjects of study belonging to their respective chairs, as they may deem advisable.

The professors in the seminary were requested to give their decision as to their respective appointments. Rev. Dr. Crawford and Rev. T. W. J. Wylie signified their acceptance. Rev. H. McMillan was not yet prepared to give a definite answer.

Resolved, that Rev. Mr. McMillan have time to consider the subject, and that, when prepared, he intimate his decision to the Board of Superintendents.

The resolution, offered by Rev. H. McMillan, on the subject of the delegated Synod, was taken up and adopted.

Resolved, that the acts of Synod, referred to in the resolution, be republished for information. (See Minutes of May 19th and Appendix A.)

Rev. John Nevin presented the following notice of a motion to be called up at next meeting of Synod:

Moved, that the rule allowing the motion, called the previous question, be expunged from the list of rules in our directory.

The Minutes were then read throughout and approved.

Dr. M'Leod tendered to Synod his respectful resignation of the clerkship which he had held for more than twenty years, expressing his intention to prepare the present Minutes for publication, and hand over the records in proper order to such successor as Synod might appoint. Whereupon, on motion of Rev. Hugh M'Millan, it was unanimously—

Resolved, that the thanks of Synod be, and they hereby are, returned to the Stated Clerk for the diligence and fidelity with which he has always discharged the duties of his office, and that he be respectfully requested to withdraw his resignation.

Dr. M'Leod expressed his grateful acknowledgments to Synod for their confidence, and withdrew his resignation.

Resolved, that Synod do now adjourn to the time and place appointed.

Adjourned, after prayer by Rev. H. M'Millan, singing the 133d Psalm, and receiving from the Moderator the apostolic benediction.

Signed,

JOHN W. MORRISON, Moderator.

JOHN NIEL M'LEOD, Stated Clerk.

Philadelphia, May 25th, 1854.

A P P E N D I X .

(Appendix A.)

To the Presbytery of Saharanpur, in connexion with the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian church in North America, the General Synod send, Greeting:

Reverend and dear Brethren in Jesus Christ,—By our committee of correspondence, we send you a brief communication for encouragement and information. And, upon the threshold, we say that you, your families, and the cause you represent in the heathen world, are all dear to our hearts. We remember you in your absence; we meet you at the throne of grace, in our synodical assemblies, where prayer is made for you continually, when we come to sit in judgment; and we know that you are not forgotten by the ministerial brethren, in their devotions, or by the good people of God among us, who feel their obligation to ask God's blessing upon your persons, and the blessed work in which you are engaged. You are indeed far from us, as to natural locality, but near in affection and interest, and in the intimacies of sanctified relationship. Presuming upon the transmission of intelligence to you through the press, and knowing that you are hearing, from time to time, by letter from the ministry personally, and from other friends of the cause who may be addressing you, we have perhaps been negligent in writing to you directly, and tendering to you synodically the hand of brotherly affection across the waters of the ocean, and the vast spaces of earth by which we are separated from immediate contact. But be assured, dear brethren, that disaffection towards you exists not in our hearts; and it is our purpose, hereafter, to make it the business of our committee of correspondence, to send you an annual epistle. Let us call your attention for a moment to your encouragements to perseverance.

And first of all, we say, that you are encouraged to perseverance in your

work by the promises of God, recorded in his blessed revelation. The sum of this system of promises is, that this world shall one day be converted to Jesus Christ, and that all who are labouring to execute the last command of the Redeemer, as he was about to pass to his throne, shall possess and enjoy his gracious and efficient presence. We believe, as intensely as we believe that God exists, that "the heathen shall be given to Jesus Christ as his inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth as his possession." On the ground of this promise, you stand and work for God; and while you do so, you may encourage your hearts before him, for he is with you. Why then should you fear? "If God be for us, who can be against us?"

But, secondly. You have great encouragement in the success you have already enjoyed. We know that success is not the criterion of fidelity. The business of a man, for an age, may be to sow the seed, or to lay the foundations of the projected building; and time, which is all to the creature, is comparatively nothing to God. But when success comes, even as the first fruits of the harvest, it is cheering and satisfactory. There are some of us of the brethren, who were first instrumental in sending you to India, that feel and know that far more has been accomplished already, than we ever expected to see on earth; and we can point to the results of your labours, and say, "Behold, what hath God wrought!" There stands a Christian church in India—a visible temple of the Holy Ghost, amidst the monuments of idolatry—a blessed rallying point for God's election of the existing generation in your locality—a school of education for a portion of the household of adoption, known to God, and discovered by his servants. You have already done great things for God. Let us rejoice together, while in humility we say, "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy name be the glory."

And, thirdly. You are encouraged by the great good your foreign mission has done to the church at home. Commenced at a period immediately succeeding the unhappy secession of former brethren from our church, and when the stormy winds were still blowing, the mission in India was a blessed expedient to take away the mind of the church from unprofitable contentions at home, and fix it on a great common object of interest, and of labour, in the distance. The object thus established, became one of desire, of hope, of prayer, of exertion; and religion revived among us, and God gave us increase, and usefulness, and prosperity, temporal and spiritual, far beyond our deserts; and we stand this day, with a power for doing good, in promoting the salvation of sinners, the edification of saints, and the maintenance and exhibition of our own excellent system of principles, such as we never possessed before in these United States. Blessed influences come back from India upon our hearts, and houses, and pulpits here, and thus the promise is fulfilled; and you the sowers, and we the reapers, rejoice together. Our Indian mission has started us to exertion: it has fostered prayer; it has promoted intelligence; it has augmented self-respect; and it has made us more appreciative of our own privileges and blessings in this highly favoured country. At this be encouraged.

But, fourthly. You are encouraged by the aspects of Providence in reference to India and the world. That great events are about to transpire in the world, is evident from the present convulsed state of society, from the relative positions of the nations, and from the prophecies of the word of God, indicating that the latter-day glory will ere long dawn upon the earth. The wheel of moral revolution is in motion. It may move with greatly increased rapidity. And who can tell how soon the cord of caste in India may be broken, and her emancipated millions come to the light which Christianity is holding up before them, and, having cast their idols to the moles and the bats, join in the mighty company of the regenerated nations, which shall bow before the true God, in the evangelical worship of the great all-embracing millennial temple? To this, brethren, it is your honour to be contributing, whether you or we shall see the consummation, or be called to our account before it actually arrives.

Your future should encourage you. And amidst all events, whether prosperous or adverse, trust in God, your own Lord, and he will give your cause its triumph; and if you be found faithful, to you he will give the promised reward. The fathers of the church, with whom you once co-operated, are passing to their rest. Yet our principles remain, our organization stands, and we hope to be still and increasingly useful in promoting the interests of the mediatorial kingdom. "Messiah shall reign until all his enemies are made his footstool." His words to you and to us, are, "Be ye faithful unto death, and I will give you a crown of life."

(Signed by order of committee of 1853.

JOHN N. M'LEOD, *Ch'n.*

New York, March 15, 1854.

(B.)

REPRESENTATIVE SYNOD.

Pittsburgh, August 7th, 1823—three o'clock P. M.

"Dr. M'Leod (the late Dr. A. M'Leod) laid on the table, with notice that he would call it up to-morrow, a resolution, proposing the organization of a General Synod, on the principle of a representation of Presbyteries."

August 8th, 1823.

"Dr. M'Leod called up the resolution laid on the table yesterday, which is as follows:

"Resolved, That a General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian church be organized on the principle of a representation of Presbyteries, in the ratio of two ministerial delegates, and as many elders, for every three ministers of which the Presbytery consists.

"On motion, this resolution was referred to a committee of one member from each of the Presbyteries. The members named were, Drs. M'Leod and Wylie, Messrs. Black, S. Wylie, and Hugh M'Millan."

August 9th, 1823. Eodem loco.

"The committee on the formation of a representative Synod presented a report, which was adopted, as follows:

"The committee, impressed with the conviction that the principles of the resolution referred to them appear obvious to all, submit the following resolutions:

"Resolved, That a General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian church be formed by delegation from the several Presbyteries. That each Presbytery shall have the right of sending two ministers, and as many ruling elders; and that the ratio of increase of the number of delegates be, until farther order be taken on the subject, two ministers, and as many ruling elders, for every three ministers of which the Presbytery consists.

"That the first meeting of General Synod be held in the city of New York, on the first Tuesday of August, 1825, at seven o'clock P. M."

Philadelphia, August 4th, 1831.

"Synod met agreeably to adjournment. Certain resolutions were presented, questioning the legitimacy of the delegation from the Philadelphia Presbytery. On motion, they were committed to a committee, consisting of Dr. M'Leod, Rev. Mr Henry, and Rev. John Kell, to report in the afternoon."

Eodem die et loco—half-past three o'clock P. M.

"The committee appointed in the case of the delegation of the Philadelphia Presbytery, presented the following report, *inter alia* :

"The committee believe, that it corresponds with the spirit and the letter,

(of the constitution,) to take order, that in all times to come, the representation should be, two of two, three of four, four of five, eight of ten, and so on, until twelve of twenty."

Reaffirmed by Synod, May 25th, 1854—met in Philadelphia.

A true extract.

(Signed,)

JOHN N. M'LEOD, *Stated Clerk.*

(C.)

REPORT OF TREASURER FOR DOMESTIC MISSIONS.

George H. Stuart, Treasurer of Synod's Board of Missions.

DR.

May 27, 1853. To balance on hand, as per report to Synod, \$167 62

Receipts since as follows, particulars acknowledged in Banner:

Northern Presbytery.

To cash from Pottsdam congregation,	.	.	\$11 16
" Lisbon	"	.	6 00
" Chimoguee	"	.	30 00
" Ryegate	"	.	9 00
" First	"	New York,	130 00
" Second	"	New York,	105 00
" Duaneburgh	"	.	34 00
" Patterson	"	.	6 00
			<hr/>
			331 16

Philadelphia Presbytery.

To cash from Milton congregation	.	.	12 00
" First	"	Philadelphia,	200 00
" Second	"	"	66 04
" Third	"	"	18 00
" Fourth	"	"	46 93
" Fifth	"	"	45 50
			<hr/>
			388 47

Ohio Presbytery.

To cash from Garrison congregation	.	.	41 79
" James C. M'Millan, Treasurer,	.	.	149 00
" Mrs. Thomas Wilson,	.	.	1 00
			<hr/>
			191 79

Western Presbytery.

To cash from Hill Prairie congregation,	.	.	36 15
" Concord	"	.	57 25
" Bloomington	"	.	35 00
" Princeton	"	.	77 40
" Grand Cote	"	.	26 50
" Eden	"	.	19 60
" Unity	"	.	29 00
" Sugar Grove	"	.	17 00
" Thorn Grove	"	.	38 21
" Monmouth	"	.	19 00
" Dundee	"	.	7 00
" Rock Prairie	"	.	15 25
" Hephzibah	"	.	3 00
" Walnut Hill	"	.	46 65
" Chicago	"	.	12 00
" Washington	"	.	72 00
			<hr/>
			511 01

Pittsburgh Presbytery.

To cash from Deer Creek congregation,	.	.	1 00	
“ Union	“	.	20 15	
“ Allegheny	“	.	51 72	
“ Ebenezer	“	.	10 00	
			<hr/>	82 87

Testimony.

Received for sundry copies sold,	.	.	{ 1 20	
as per acknowledgment in Banner,	.	.	{ 127 35	
			<hr/>	128 55

Sustentation Fund.

A friend,	.	.	10 00	
Collection in First Philadelphia congregation,	.	.	101 65	
“ Second “ “	.	.	18 71	
“ Fifth “ “	.	.	12 50	
“ First New York “	.	.	107 54	
“ Second “ “	.	.	34 05	
“ Monmouth “	.	.	7 00	
“ Neshanock “	.	.	36 00	
“ Newcastle “	.	.	5 00	
“ Cedarville “	.	.	20 00	
“ Thorn Grove “	.	.	10 58	
“ Second Pittsburgh “	.	.	11 00	
“ Princeton “	.	.	45 00	
“ Hephzibah “	.	.	7 30	
“ Darlington “	.	.	19 00	
“ Austintown “	.	.	6 00	
“ Brooklyn “	.	.	20 00	
“ Ebenezer “	.	.	2 00	
“ Dundee “	.	.	16 00	
“ Eden “	.	.	11 00	
“ Beechwoods “	.	.	10 00	
“ Pleasant Hill “	.	.	5 00	
“ Union “	.	.	3 09	
“ Walnut Hill “	.	.	15 00	
“ Garrison “	.	.	11 70	
“ Goose River “	.	.	6 00	
“ Amherst “	.	.	10 00	
“ Chimoguee “	.	.	13 00	
“ From Miss Mary Mann	.	.	1 00	
“ From Mrs. Grayper	.	.	1 00	
“ A friend	.	.	4 00	
			<hr/>	580 12

From Daniel M. Millan.

Received from him, balance of \$1000 subscription	.	.	350 00	
Balance due Treasurer	.	.	78 96	
			<hr/>	\$2,810 55

Philadelphia, May 23, 1854.

GEO. H. STUART, *Treasurer.*

1854.

February 17. Received from New York, postmarked Newburgh, N. Y., the interest of which for ten years to be applied to Do- mestic Missions, afterwards as Board may direct	.	.	200 00	
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CR.

Payments as follow:

Rev. J. W. Morrison, paid him by	Washington cong.	6 00	
“ Gavin M'Millan,	“ “ “	6 00	
“ E. Cooper,	“ “ “	18 00	
Do.	J. C. M'Millan, Treas.	6 00	
Do.	for travelling expenses	46 80	
			70 80
“ John M'Millan	“ Washington cong'on.	6 00	
“ H. M'Millan	“ J. C. M'Millan, Treas.	24 00	
“ Samuel Wylie	“ Hill Prairie congreg'n.	18 15	
“ M. Smith	for services West. P.	22 00	
“ Dr. Herron	“ J. C. M'Millan, Treas.	72 40	
Do.	order of Ex. Com'tee.	50 00	
			122 40
“ Alexander Clark	“ ditto	.	60 00
“ Wm. S. Darragh	“ ditto	.	40 00
“ M. Harshaw	“ order West. Presb'ry.		36 00
“ A. R. Gailey	“ Washington congreg.	12 00	
Do.	“ order Northern Pres.	30 00	
Do.	“ “ Tr. Exp.	26 80	
Do.	“ order O. Pres. Tr. Ex.	61 30	
Do.	“ order West P. Tr. Ex.	66 70	
Do.	“ order West. Presb'ry.	15 00	
Do.	“ order Ohio Presb'ry.	48 40	
			260 20
“ W. M. Lamb	“ Washington congreg.	6 00	
Do.	“ J. C. M'Millan, Treas.	6 00	
			12 00
“ W. T. Wylie	“ ditto	13 20	
Do.	for trav. exp. O. Pres.	29 62	
Do.	for ditto, Phil. Presb.	12 90	
			55 72
“ John Alford	“ J. C. M'Millan, Treas.	12 00	
Do.	“ Washington congreg.	61 50	
Do.	“ fortravelling expenses.	8 40	
			81 90
“ Rev. J. A. Crawford	“ J. C. M'Millan, Treas.	6 00	
Do.	“ order Northern Pres.	25 00	31 00
“ A. G. M'Auley	“ order of ditto	.	40 00
“ W. D. Silliman	for trav. expenses	.	39 70
“ Robert Patterson	½ 7 mos. sal. as G. A.	233 33	
Do.	for trav. expenses	90 02	
Do.	for ditto	24 75	348 10
William Matthews	“ order Northern Pres.		25 00
William Agnew	“ order of ditto	.	13 80
Samuel Dodd	as colporteur	.	106 50
N. K. Crow	as ditto	.	145 30

Sustentation Fund.

Rev. Gavin M'Millan, paid him by	order of Ex. Com.	112 00
“ Dr. Herron	“ order of ditto	62 00
“ James S. Scott	“ order of ditto	112 00
“ Robert M'Cracken	“ order of ditto	112 00
“ William S. Darragh	“ order of ditto	122 00
“ M. Harshaw	“ order of ditto	12 00
“ John M'Millan	“ order of ditto	12 00

Chimoguee congregation, collection retained by them,	. 13 00
Amherst " " " "	. 10 00
Young and Duross, printing circulars,	. 12 00—579 00
West. Pres. amt. from Rev. Mr. M'Kelvey, lost by mail,	5 00

Colportage Account.

Sundry bills of books and ex. on transmission for use of colporteurs,	136 20
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Testimony.

Paid for stereotyping, printing, &c., 10,000 copies,	512 78
Young and Duross, printing,	7 00
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	\$2,810 55

1854.

May 23. By balance due Treasurer, as reported to Synod,	78 96
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We, the undersigned, have examined the above report of the Treasurer, for Domestic Missions, and find that there is due a balance to the Treasurer, as stated, of seventy-eight dollars and ninety-six cents, (say \$78 96,) all of which is respectfully submitted by

JAMES N. GIFFORD,
JOSEPH FLEMING,
Auditing Committee.

(D.)

REPORT OF THE TREASURER FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS.

George H. Stuart, Treasurer, in account with Board for Foreign Missions.

1853.

DR.

May 27. To balance on hand, as per report to Synod,	-	\$1235 58
Receipts since, as follows—particulars acknowledged in Banner:		

Northern Presbytery.

To cash from Amherst congregation,	-	-	\$13 62
" Chimoguee "	-	-	6 84
" First New York "	-	-	240 00
" Second " "	-	-	76 00
" Potsdam "	-	-	6 49
" Ryegate "	-	-	9 00
" West Barnett "	-	-	6 75
" Duanesburgh "	-	-	44 00
" Patterson "	-	-	6 00
" Wm. Cunningham,	-	-	10 00
			<hr/>
			418 70

Philadelphia Presbytery.

To cash from First Philadelphia congregation,		\$1248 77
" " " Sabbath School,	-	331 95
" Second " congregation,	-	82 66
" Third " "	-	18 77
" " " Sabbath School,	-	12 17
" Fourth " congregation,	-	46 94
" Fifth " "	-	85 12
" Milton "	-	56 28
" M'Ewensville "	-	6 25
" Washingtonville "	-	7 50
" Mrs. De Selding,	-	1 00
		<hr/>
		1897 41

Pittsburgh Presbytery.

To cash from First Pittsburgh congregation,	-	\$305 00
“ “ “ Sabbath School,	-	22 63
“ Second “ congregation,	-	45 00
“ Deer Creek “	-	9 00
“ Austintown “	-	5 00
“ Mount Hermon “	-	20 27
“ Darlington “	-	40 50
“ Mount Pleasant “	-	22 65
“ Pine Creek “	-	30 00
“ Ebenezer “	-	20 00
“ Neshanock “	-	59 29
“ Little Beaver “	-	1 00
“ Union “	-	7 32
“ Pleasant Hill “	-	10 00
“ Allegheny “	-	60 55
“ Bethel, Butler Co. “	-	3 85
“ Shenango “	-	60 00
“ From friends,	-	31 00
“ Rev. G. R. M'Millan and lady,	-	10 00
“ John Ewer,	-	5 00
“ David D. Black,	-	1 00

769 06

Ohio Presbytery.

To cash from Richland congregation,	-	\$28 00
“ Xenia “	-	81 71
“ Utica “	-	31 00
“ Cincinnati “	-	17 00
“ Garrison “	-	64 89
“ Beechwoods “	-	33 50
“ Cedarville “	-	60 90
“ Rev. E. Cooper,	-	5 00

321 90

Western Presbytery.

To cash from Washington congregation,	-	\$14 03
“ Chicago “	-	32 85
“ Hill Prairie, “	-	35 00
“ Bloomington “	-	41 00
“ Princeton “	-	78 40
“ Grand-Cote “	-	26 50
“ Eden “	-	34 40
“ Unity “	-	33 00
“ Sugar Grove “	-	17 00
“ Thorn Grove “	-	38 21
“ Dundee “	-	13 81
“ Monmouth “	-	19 00
“ Concord “	-	39 25
“ Fayetteville, Ten. “	-	5 00
“ Rock Prairie, “	-	16 65
“ Walnut Hill “	-	41 65

484 75

Native Assistants.

To cash from Eden, half year's support of G. M'Master,	\$60 00
“ First New York S. School, three months' support of John N. M'Leod,	30 00

To cash from First Philadelphia S. School, one year's support of T. W. J. Wylie, - -	120 00	
		210 00

Scholarship Fund.

For English school, - - - -	\$1 00	
To cash from Fourth Church, Philadelphia, for support of James Renwick, - -	25 00	
" Cincinnati school, for English school, Dehra,	26 00	
" Wm. Matthews, for support of S. Bates,	25 00	
" S. School First Asso. Refd. Church, Pittsburgh, for D. R. Kerr, - -	25 00	
" Chas. Arbuthnot, for C. C. Arbuthnot,	25 00	
" H. M'Millan's congregation, - -	12 00	
" Juvenile Missionary Society of do., -	45 00	
" First Asso. Refd. Church, Phila., for J. B. Dales, - - - -	25 00	
" Second Church, Phila., for Wm. Sterrett,	25 00	
" Xenia congregation, for Rob't Patterson,	25 00	
		259 00

General Fund.

To cash from Eden cong., for 200 copies For. Missionary,	\$20 00	
" Princeton " 50 " "	5 00	
" Concord cong., for 50 " "	5 00	
" Xenia " 50 " "	5 00	
" Garrison " Jas. T. Nesbit, for distribution of tracts and Cat'sm at Saharanpur,	2 21	
		37 21

Missions in Hindustan.

To cash from sale of books, - - - -	94 06
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Banner of the Covenant.

To cash from receipts for the Banner the past year, -	941 25
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Mission Retreat.

To cash from balance of D. M'Millan's subscription,	50 00
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Mission Buildings.

To cash from a friend, - - - -	\$500 00	
" Poland congregation, - - - -	4 20	
		504 00

\$722 92

May 23. Balance on hand, as reported to Synod this day,	\$1293 86
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GEO. H. STUART.

Philadelphia, May 23, 1854.

1852.

CR.

Rev. James R. Campbell.

By cash paid General Assembly's Board, eighteen mos. salary, to 1st June, 1854, - -	\$900 00
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Rev. Joseph Caldwell.

" General Assembly's Board, eighteen mos. salary, to 1st June, 1854, - -	900 00
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Rev. John S. Woodside.

By cash paid General Assembly's Board, eighteen mos. salary, to 1st June, 1854, - -	900 00	
		2700 00

Scholarship Fund.

By cash paid General Assembly's Board, amount rec'd to date, on account this fund, -		284 00
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Native Assistants.

By cash paid General Assembly's Board, amount rec'd to date, on account this fund, -		210 00
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Banner of the Covenant.

By cash paid for printing, postage, and other expenses,		662 30
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General Fund.

By cash paid General Assembly's Board, for Foreign Missionary sent to various congregations,	116 32	
“ for printing circulars, - - -	2 50	
		118 82

Missions in Hindustan.

By cash paid C. Sherman, for printing 510 copies, -		130 58
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Rev. R. Patterson.

By cash paid him, half of seven mos. salary as General Agent, - - - -	233 33	
“ for travelling expenses, - .	90 03	
		323 36

Mission Buildings.

By cash remitted Rev. J. S. Woodside, for Station at Dehra,		500 00
“ paid General Assembly's Board, “ “		500 00

Duff College, Calcutta.

By cash paid Rev. Dr. Duff, as per special appropriation of First Ref. Presb. Church, Philadelphia,		500 00
By balance on hand, - - - - -		1293 86
		\$7222 92

We, the undersigned, have examined the within Report of the Treasurer of Foreign Missions, and find the balance in the hands of the Treasurer, as stated. to be twelve hundred and ninety-three dollars fifty-six cents, (say \$1293.56.)

All of which is respectfully submitted by

JAMES N. GIFFORD, } *Auditing Committee.*
JOSEPH FLEMING, }

(E.)

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MISSIONS.

In presenting to General Synod their usual annual report, the Board of Missions feel impressed with the conviction that they must soon be required individually to render an account unto God. The venerable and beloved Gilbert M'Master, D. D., who for many years was their presiding officer, has, since the last meeting of Synod, been called away to that better country, "where the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary are at rest." Full of days, full of usefulness, full of honour, like a shock of corn in its season, he has been taken from earth to heaven. A warm

and judicious friend of our missionary operations from their incipency, he continued to manifest a strong interest in them as long as he lived. It is pleasing that there is one in India whose piety and talents give favourable indications that he may well represent the honoured man whose name he bears.

The Board feel happy at being able to congratulate Synod on the increased and still increasing interest manifested in our own church, and throughout our land, in the great object of the world's evangelization. The Treasurer's report will show that the amount received for Foreign Missions is \$5,987.34, excluding balance of \$1,235.58. And for Domestic Missions is \$2,563.97, exclusive of \$200, received from an anonymous friend in New York, which, according to direction, has been invested, and the interest is subject to appropriation by the Board. This has been collected generally by the operation of the system introduced by the late agent of the Board, and it is hoped that attention may be paid by pastors and sessions, and all the members of our church, to the support of a plan so scriptural, and so judicious, and which has already worked so well. There is good reason to believe that more correct ideas are beginning to prevail in regard to *personal* as well as *pecuniary* consecration. It is beginning to be felt that every "good soldier of Jesus CHRIST" must be willing to go wherever, and to do whatever the great Captain of our Salvation may indicate. Soon, we trust, instead of a few straggling champions going forth to meet the enemies of the living God, their number will be as a great army. The Lord has given the Word, GREAT must be the company of those that publish it.

The visit to this country of the Rev. Dr. Duff, the President of the Free Church Mission of Calcutta, has done incalculable good. His fervid eloquence, and irresistible reasoning, connected with the practical demonstration given by his own labours, of the correctness of his positions, has stirred mightily the hearts of all who heard him. In promoting Christian concord and co-operation, and showing that those who love the Saviour may and can harmoniously labour in the discharge of the great duty of the church "to teach all nations," he has done great things. It has been a source of much regret that he could not have remained longer here; but we trust he may yet return to witness the plenteous harvest, and to gather some of the abundant fruits resulting from his work of faith and labour of love amongst us. Our earnest prayer is that he may be preserved safely from all evil, and conducted in due season to his chosen field of usefulness, and long spared there to labour in CHRIST'S cause, and after he has finished his course on earth may receive the blessing given to those who may turn many to righteousness.

Rev. Robert Patterson, whose services were reported at length to last Synod, according to the direction given at your last meeting, continued in the employment of the Board until he had completed his tour through our churches. The plan pursued since last Synod was the same as that put into operation before, and it has been found productive of great good. Mr. Patterson's connexion with the Board closed in December last. The church owes much to his untiring zeal and energy, and to him the consciousness that his labour has not been in vain in the LORD, must be a source of humble and fervent thankfulness.

As the plan of systematic benevolence which has been introduced among our churches requires constant and careful attention in order to secure its regular and efficient action, and even to maintain its existence, the Board earnestly urge upon the attention of Synod the obligation which rests upon the officers of the church, and all its members, in regard to this subject. As the command to honour the LORD with our substance is as imperative as any other divine injunction, we consider that ministers and elders should urge this duty on the people over whom they are placed, and should ascertain whether or not it is attended to. While we would reject the idea that any thing is to be extorted from the people, and require that all should be a free-will offering, yet we believe that this, as a department of Christian morals, comes under the notice of ecclesiastical officers. The session of a church, in the exercise of the duties of their diaconate, should see to this matter; and it should be their endeavour, by placing it upon the high ground of religious duty, to found it on a principle powerful and permanent, while by their wise direction of its practical operation they may elicit the resources, and combine the means, and promote the hearty co-operation of all their members. It is only when the truth that every member of a church is a member of a missionary society comes into *practical* operation—it is only when it is felt that those who pray "Thy kingdom come," are bound to "do what they can" to effect that result—it is only then, that we may suppose the church will arise and shine, will put on her beautiful garments, will break forth on the right hand and the left hand, and possess the Gentiles.

The annual report of the Saharanpur station, which has been recently published in the Banner of the Covenant, gives a full account of the operations of the missionary brethren during the preceding year. It will have been observed that a new station has been commenced in Dehra, about forty miles from Saharanpur, in the valley of the Dooab. Mr. Woodside, who has occupied this new post, had suffered so much from the fact that the climate of Saharanpur was unsuited to his constitution, that his health, and probably his life, would have been sacrificed if he had remained there. The station he has removed to, is one where his labours, we may hope, can be continued without interruption, and where a great field of usefulness is presented. The expense of the erection of buildings for the accommodation of the mission family has been in most part defrayed by the very liberal donations made by friends of missions in India. One thousand rupees were drawn from the treasury of the mission, but the amount has been refunded to the General Assembly's Board.

The consent of the members of the Lodia mission, with which, it is to be remembered, our brethren are, in regard to such arrangements, connected, was given to Mr. Woodside's removal, on the information or expectation that a missionary would shortly be sent out from our church, who would fill Mr. W.'s former position. The Board had reason to suppose that Mr. W. Shaw would have been ready at this time to have gone out, but the delicate state of his health has led to the belief that at present he should remain in our own land. We consider it, however, indispensable that one or more missionaries be shortly sent out, and we recommend this subject to Synod as one of the most important subjects which can occupy its attention. Every minister and every member of the church should be regarded as subject to the call of the LORD JESUS CHRIST, expressed by his divinely-appointed representatives, to go to any place which he may indicate. It was in this way that the evangelization of the world seems to have been conducted in apostolic times. Ecclesiastical historians tell us of the division of the field of labour which the apostles made among themselves; and when Paul and Barnabas went forth on their missionary expedition, it was by the direction of the Presbytery of Antioch. The Board would suggest that Synod would solemnly designate some one, two, or more of the ministers, placed and unplaced, or of the licentiates, or of the students of theology, or of the private members of our churches, whom they would call to this great work, and would officially commission to go to the Gentile world. And as it was while they ministered (*λειτουργουντων*) and fasted that the LORD JESUS CHRIST communicated his will to the church at Antioch, may we not hope that in the use of similar means we may receive his guidance? We recommend, therefore, that one day be set apart during your present sessions for this purpose; that it be spent in religious fasting, and that public worship suited to the nature of this object be conducted in the Synod by its own appointment; that afterwards the roll of Synod be called, and every one give his ballot for such person or persons as he may regard most qualified for this duty; that the person or persons who may be thus selected be requested to take into their serious consideration the call made upon them, and that if they consent to go the Board be instructed to send them out to India.

If it be not thought proper to adopt this plan, the Board express their earnest desire that effective measures may be taken to procure additional missionaries. Great as the demands may be for the supply of the destitute in our own land, these are far less than the claims of the heathen. Christians at home should feel that as they are called to consecrate their gain unto the LORD, or to dedicate to him their personal labours, so they may be required to sacrifice, in some measure, their own abundant and preferred supply of the means of grace, and give up their beloved pastors to the service of the Head of the church, when he calls for their labours in the heathen world. How powerful would be the influence on the younger members of the church, on her students and licentiates, on all her ministers, if those whom Providence has placed in positions of comfort, and usefulness, and respectability, as pastors of our churches at home, should at the call of the church by her proper authorities, count the things which were gain to be loss to them, that they might go far hence and preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of CHRIST. So it should be, so we trust it will be, so let it now be, reverend fathers and brethren, among us from this time forward.

The various departments of missionary duty are continued with diligence and encouraging success. The number of ordained missionaries is three, all of whom are married; of native assistant missionaries, two; four young men are in course of preparation for the ministry as students of theology. In the various schools connected with the mission more than one hundred and fifty children are receiving instruction.

In the church which has been organized in Saharanpur there are now twenty-four communicants. The attendance on the preaching of the gospel in the churches on the mission premises, in the city, is large and increasing, and much serious interest is manifested both by the European residents, who attend with great regularity, and also by the natives, several of whom have shown a spirit of inquiry, which it is hoped will lead many to seek for salvation through the LORD JESUS CHRIST. The contributions of the church at Saharanpur for missionary purposes have been very large, and the Board cannot forbear holding up the liberality thus evinced as an example to the numerous but slumbering members of the churches in our own land. From the British residents also large donations have been received: a most agreeable indication of the appreciation of the labours of our missionaries where they are most open to observation.

The committee on the report of the Presbytery of Saharanpur being members of the Board, have desired that they may be considered as uniting in this as the expression of their views and feelings, with a recommendation that a suitable appropriation be made for the purchase of philosophical apparatus for the Dehra station, and of a theological library at Saharanpur, and in compliance with the desire of the brethren they propose to address a letter to the mission, informing them of the operations of the church at home, and expressing our affectionate sympathy for them, and our strong interest in all their movements.

The Board earnestly commend the mission to the prayers of all our churches, and trust that they will unite most cordially and energetically in sustaining it. God has blessed it hitherto, and we have reason to believe that he will increase it yet more and more.

We do not consider it necessary to say much in regard to our domestic operations. The direction of the movements of licentiates and unsettled ministers remains, according to the rule of Synod, in the hands of Presbyteries, and the Board merely provides for those who labour in the service of the church such pecuniary support as Synod has directed. In view, however, of the demands of simple justice, it has been considered that the sum allowed should be increased, and the Board has adopted a resolution recommending to Synod that the per diem allowance for every Sabbath actually employed in preaching be eight dollars. As the sums paid for travelling expenses have varied much, and a proper examination of the accounts has caused difficulty, the Board recommends that the allowance made for the services of domestic missionaries include this item, and that no separate provision be made for it.

During the past year the Board has directed its attention to the subject of colportage, as required by Synod. They regret that they have been able to obtain so few to act as Scripture readers. The amount of funds contributed with the understanding that this object should receive our attention has been great, and the Board regard it as a very interesting part of their operations. Mr. N. K. Crow has laboured in their service in the Western and Ohio Presbyteries, and Mr. James Darragh and Mr. Dodds in the Northern. The reports received from these young brethren, thus employed, are quite encouraging.

The Board have endeavoured to do something to increase the salaries of ministers whose congregations do not provide adequate support. In order to effect this a recommendation was made that collections should be taken up on the last Thanksgiving day, or some Sabbath near that time. We regret that all our congregations did not contribute to this object, and that the amount received was not greater. The sum remitted to the treasurer (\$580.12) was distributed among such ministers as received less than \$312 per annum, and in such a way as to secure to all at least that amount. The letters of acknowledgment received from those whose pressing pecuniary wants were thus, in some measure, relieved, indicated how well the fund was disposed of, and lead the Board to recommend that a similar arrangement should be made for the present year.

The operations of the Board having become quite complicated, it has been thought expedient to recommend to Synod the separation of the management of our foreign and domestic missionary operations. If it please Synod—though this is not their own preference—the brethren in New York and Philadelphia will continue as a Board of Foreign Missions to superintend our foreign missions; and it is recommended that a Board of Domestic Missions, whose centre of operations shall be in the city of Pittsburgh, be organized. This division of labour, we trust, will promote the advantage of both objects of effort, and will tend to conciliate and concentrate towards each the whole of the strength of our churches.

With the prayer that Divine grace may guide you in all your deliberations and decisions, we submit our report.

(F.)

MINISTERS OF THE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Northern Presbytery.

John N. McLeod, D. D., 87 West Twentieth street, New York.
 Andrew Gifford Wylie, Duaneburgh, N. Y.
 Alexander Clarke, Amherst, Nova Scotia.
 David J. Patterson, 240 Deim street, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Henry Gordon, Lisbon Centre, "
 Robert A. Hill, Paterson, New Jersey.
 William S. Darragh, Goose River, Nova Scotia.
 Andrew A. Gailey, Domestic Missionary.
 Spencer L. Finney, 177 Waverly place, New York.
 John Bole, South Ryegate, Vermont.
 William D. Silliman, Pottsdam, N. Y.

Philadelphia Presbytery.

Samuel W. Crawford, D. D., Summer street, Philadelphia.
 Theodorus W. J. Wylie, 760 Pine street, "
 William Sterrett, 993 Callowhill street, "
 Robert J. Black, 564 Marshall street, "
 Alexander G. McAuley, 278 Hanover St.

Pittsburgh Presbytery.

Thomas C. Guthrie, D. D., Bakertown, Pa.
 George Scott, East Palestine, Ohio.
 Andrew W. Black, D. D., Allegheny City, Pa.
 Josiah Hutchman, Newcastle, "
 David Herron, Hartstown, Crawford Co. "
 John Nevin, Pittsburgh, "
 John Douglas, "
 Andrew Walker, Domestic Missionary.
 G. R. McMillan, Newcastle, "
 Robert McCracken, Wirtemberg, "
 Robert Burgess, Austintown, Ohio.

Ohio Presbytery.

Andrew Heron, D. D., Steel's Post-office, Indiana.
 Hugh McMillan, Cedarville, Ohio.
 Gavin McMillan, Oxford, "
 Ebenezer Cooper, Steel's Post-office, Indiana.
 Theophilus A. Wylie, Oxford, Ohio.
 J. Agnew Crawford, Xenia, "
 Robert Patterson, Cincinnati, "
 William Wilson, D. D., " "

Western Presbytery.

Samuel Wylie, Sparta, Illinois.
 John McMaster, Princeton, Indiana.
 Hugh A. McKelvey, Walnut Hill P. O., Marion co., Ill.
 James Pearson, Sparta, Illinois.

Presbytery of Chicago.

John W. Morrison, Bloom, Cook co., Illinois.
 Alexander M. Stewart, Chicago, "
 John McMillan, Dundee, "
 James S. Scott, Monmouth, "

Presbytery of Saharanpur.

James R. Campbell, Saharanpur, Northern India.
 Joseph Caldwell, " "
 John S. Woodside, Dehra, Dhoon, "

Miscellaneous.

The American Baptist Missionary Union.—About the year 1814 the Baptists of this country entered in earnest upon the work of foreign missions, and shortly afterwards organized the “American Baptist Missionary Union”—the highest missionary organization of their church. The following interesting summary from its late annual meeting in this city, will show that its labours have not been in vain:—

“The number of missions prosecuted under the direction of the Board is 21, embracing 85 stations and 540 out-stations. Connected with the missions are 66 missionaries, of whom 61 are preachers, and there are 63 female assistants. Two missionaries and 5 female assistants have died during the past year, and 4 missionaries and 4 female assistants have joined the missions. The number of native preachers and assistants is 211; total of missionaries and assistants connected with the missions, 340. Three missionaries are under appointment. There are 214 churches, having a membership of 15,715, of whom were added by baptism the past year, 1,780. The number of schools is 80, including 3 for native preachers, and 14 normal and boarding-schools, with about 1,927 pupils.”

The American Sunday-school Union.*—The first anniversary of this institution was held after its formal organization in 1814. Its head-quarters and chief depositories are in this city. It has in its board of management representatives from several different religious denominations—of very different sentiments in faith and practice, however—and in its endeavours to harmonize all in one Union, it is under the necessity of keeping all doctrinal distinctions out of view in its books and teachings; yet it is an institution of most extensive influence and operation. From the Report of its Thirtieth Anniversary, just held, we take the following:—

“Three hundred and twenty-two labourers have been employed, for various periods of time, in 30 different States and territories. These labourers or missionaries have established 2,012 new schools, and have visited and revived 2,961 other schools, altogether embracing 39,112 teachers, and 235,975 scholars. They have distributed, by sale and donation, \$47,707.07 worth of religious books, chiefly for children and youth.

“The *missionary* labours of the Society are entirely distinct from the publishing department. Indeed, the latter is quite subordinate to the former. As a missionary institution, the Society has two chief objects:—1. To open new Sabbath-schools in neighbourhoods and settlements where they would not otherwise be established; visiting and reviving old Sabbath-schools; and—2, to supply them with books for carrying on the schools successfully when thus begun.”

American Tract Society.—This Society held its twenty-ninth anniversary in New York, on the 11th of May. It is another of those compromise institutions, in which, for the purpose of attaining the greater influence and strength, various denominations unite in a general form, and for the time, and in the particular work, agree to lay aside all their distinctive peculiarities. This Society has become one of the most powerful of the kind. Its report shows the following results of the past year:—

“*New Publications.*—76, in seven languages, of which 19 are volumes; total publications, 1,917, of which 397 are volumes; total approved for circulation abroad, in about 119 languages and dialects, 2,885, of which 282 are volumes. Of the

* It has always been a matter of regret that any Christian association or people should apply the term *Sunday* to the day which the Scriptures every where designate the *Sabbath*, or the *Lord's day*; yet, in the above case, as the title and statements are from the official records of the institution, we are constrained to allow the term to stand in the Society's own language.

American Messenger, upwards of 200,000 are printed monthly; of the *Child's Paper*, more than 250,000; of the *German Messenger*, about 25,000.

"*Circulated during the Year.*—10,334,718 publications, including 1,046,544 volumes, and embracing 315,100,857 pages. Total since the formation of the Society, 148,228,197 publications, including 9,463,374 volumes. Gratuitous distribution for the year, in 6,049 distinct grants by the Committee, 65,372,069 pages, besides 7,852,755 to life directors and life members; value nearly \$50,000.

"*Receipts.*—In donations, \$156,033.48, including \$27,864.88 in legacies; for sales, including periodicals, \$259,125.12; total, \$415,370.21. *Expenditures.*—For publishing books and periodicals, \$244,426.42; for colportage, \$91,218.62; cash remitted to foreign and pagan lands, \$20,000: total expended, \$406,703.17.

"*Colportage.*—Number of colporteurs labouring the whole or part of the year 610, of whom 120 laboured among the foreign population, and 88 were students from colleges and theological seminaries. They visited 568,022 families, with 265,500 of whom they conversed on personal religion or prayed. They found 92,531 families who habitually neglected evangelical preaching, 54,980 families of Roman Catholics, 49,935 families destitute of all religious books but the Bible, and 30,694 destitute of the Bible. The number of meetings addressed, or prayer-meetings held by them, was 12,706."

Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions.—The 17th anniversary of this Board was held in New York on the 7th of May. It belongs to the General Assembly Presbyterian Church, (Old School.) It has all its ministers and licentiates connected with presbyteries, and its mission churches under the care of sessions, and both under the control of the Assembly. This is right. It is strictly a church missionary organization. In the report before us the following facts appear:—

"The Board has missions among the Jews, the Indians, and the Chinese in California, in North America; in South America; on the Continent of Europe; in Western Africa; and in Northern India, in Siam and China, in Asia; embracing 22 separate missions, 59 ordained missionaries, 3 licentiate preachers, 109 male and female assistant missionaries, 29 native helpers, 26 churches, and about 500 native communicants, 53 schools, and 4,050 pupils, 6 printing presses, from which have been issued more than 6,000,000 pages during the past year. The receipts from all sources, (including a balance of last year of \$618.97, have been \$174,453.02. The expenditures, \$173,185.50. Leaving a balance of \$1,267.52."

The A. B. C. for Foreign Missions.—The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions commenced its great work in 1810, and now presents the following interesting statistics:—

"This Board has under its care 28 missions, which occupy 111 stations, and 38 regular outstations. Of these missions, 7 are among the aborigines of our own country; 2 are in Africa; 1 in Greece; 1 to the Jews in Turkey; 4 among the nominal Christians in the Mohammedan empire of Western and Central Asia; 7 on the continent in India; 1 in Ceylon; 3 in China; and the remaining 2 are in the lowly Isles of the Pacific.

"The present number of missionaries—not including 8 at the Sandwich Islands, who, with 6 lay and 14 female labourers, are entirely supported independently of the Board, is 161; of ordained or assistant missionaries, 27; and of female assistant missionaries, 219. The whole number of labourers sent from this country is, therefore, 407. With them are associated 39 native preachers, and 192 other native helpers, making the total number of labourers now connected with the missions, and supported with their funds, to be 638. Seventeen missionaries, and 7 assistant missionaries, are now under appointment, and expecting soon to depart.

"Connected with the missions are 11 printing establishments, from which 37,127,251 pages of the Word of God, and of divine truth in other forms, were issued during the past year. In the 9 seminaries, 23 boarding-schools, and 712 schools in the missions, more than 13,000 pupils receive instruction, which, with the blessing of God, will not only be to their salvation, but furnish pastors and other well-qualified agents for the work of evangelization. One hundred and three churches, under the care of the missions, contain nearly 26,000 members in communion, of whom 2,016 were received during the last year reported.

"The financial year of the Board closes on the 31st of July. Since that date last year, \$213,500 have been received, which is nearly \$4,000 more than in the corresponding period of the previous year."

Rhenish Missionary Society.—This Society has just entered its twenty-sixth year. It is sustained by members of the Lutheran and Reformed Churches in Germany:—

"Its first mission was commenced in South Africa. Stellenbosch and Tulbagh were occupied in 1830, for the benefit of the slaves in the colony; and Whupperthal, in the same year, became an 'institute' for the free Hottentots, a large tract of land having been purchased therefor. Another station was begun in 1832, and a fifth in 1834. At length the Society extended its operations to 'regions beyond;' and now it has two stations among the Bunda people, the papal missionaries of Congo and Benguela having alone preceded them in this field.

"As the result of its efforts in behalf of the heathen, the Rhenish Missionary Society can point to more than five thousand persons who have received baptism, and to eighteen hundred communicants."

Matter for Christian Thought and Prayer.—The following is commended to the attention of those who prize the gospel, and can feel as they should for the spiritually destitute:—

"At the late missionary meeting held in Boston, by the Methodists, one of the speakers remarked that from the southern border of Texas to the South Pole not eight evangelical ministers are to be found; and from the city of Morocco to the mouth of the Euphrates, thence to the borders of South Africa, and back to the starting point; in this immense triangle, with a population of 70,000,000 souls, there is not one Christian mission."

Bibles.—The American Bible Society, in its late annual report, says:—

"The number of Bibles printed by the Society, during the year, is 306,000, and of Testaments, 556,000—making a total of 862,000. The number of volumes issued is 815,399, being an increase of 16,029, and would have been larger but for the unavoidable suspension of operations for six weeks, owing to the removal to our new premises. The entire number of volumes issued since the formation of the Society, is 9,903,751."

Roman Catholics in the United States.—The *Metropolitan Catholic Almanac* for 1854—the almanac published under the care of the Archbishop at Baltimore, Md., says:—

"The entire Roman Catholic population of the United States is 1,632,600. There are 7 archdiocesses, 41 diocesses, 1,712 churches, 746 other stations, 1,422 clergymen in ministry, 182 otherwise employed, 34 ecclesiastical institutions, 45 literary institutions for young men, 171 female religious institutions, 112 female academies, 131 charitable institutions. During 1853 there was an increase of 9 diocesses, 1 archbishop, 5 bishops, 113 priests, and 167 churches. There are 24 colleges, 29 theological seminaries, and 4 preparatory seminaries under Roman Catholic direction. There are 24 periodicals devoted to the spread of Catholicism, 20 of which are weekly."

Crime and its Cause in Philadelphia.—Records like the following ought not to escape notice:—

"From the 15th of October, 1850, the date of Mayor Gilpin's installation into office, in Philadelphia, until the 31st of March last, 26,905 prisoners were heard by him. Of this number, 2,076 were returned to court, making an average of about 103 for each term. The number arrested for larcenies was 709; counterfeiting, 150; burglary, 74; drunkenness and disorderly conduct, directly attributable to the use of intoxicating drinks, *twenty-two thousand.*"

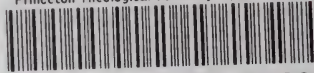
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